History

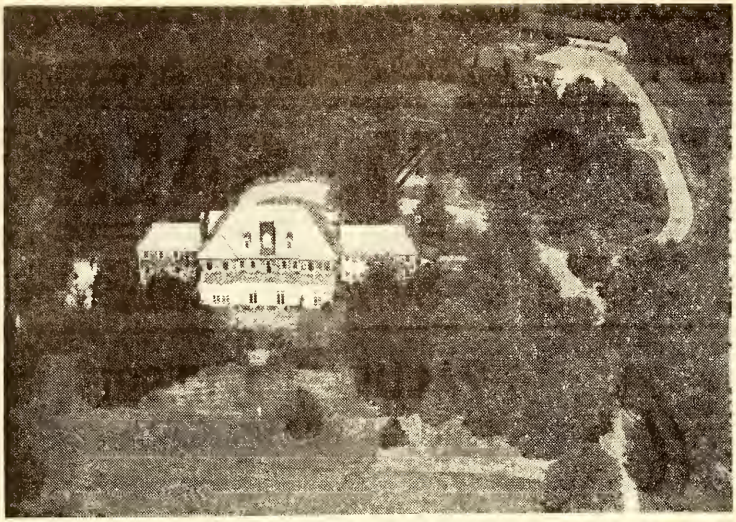
OF THE

NORTH CAROLINA

ASSOCIATION

OF

JEWISH WOMEN



New Home For Jewish Aged

117-Acre Estate To Be Home For Aged Jews

By BILL LAMKIN
Observer Relision Editor

WINSTON-SALEM — The 24-room R. E. Lasater mansion near Clemmons and 117 acres of the property have been purchased for the North Carolina Home for the Jewish Aged.

The transaction was completed Tuesday, with the property transferred to the Blumenthal Foundation of Charlotte at a price of $135,000.

After renovation and additions, the total project will cost an estimated $500,000.

The home is a joint project of the N. C. Association of Jewish Men and the N. C. Association of Jewish Women.

I. D. Blumenthal of Charlotte is president of the men's organization, and Mrs. Monroe Evans of Raleigh heads the women.

Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal are co-chairmen of the home's building committee.

The property is part of Forest Hills Farm, 1,252-acre showplace developed by Lasater before his death in 1954 at age 86. The mansion was erected in 1928.

Lasater was associated with R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. 58 years before retiring in 1948 as vice president in charge of manufacturing.

R. J. (Dick) Reynolds bought the estate in late 1954.

He sold it two years later to E. V. Ferrell of Winston-Salem and A. C. Jordan of McKeesport, Pa., Ferrell's brother-in-law.

First step in developing the property will be to employ an architect to lay out a master plan for using the acreage, Blumenthal said.

He said the mansion will house the administrative office a dining room, chapel and library.

Additional wings will be of the same design and construction as the old mansion.

Plans call for the erection of small cottages about the spacious grounds to accommodate couples, who will take their meals at the home.

Blumenthal said funds to finance the half-million-dollar project will be raised through a campaign directed by the board of governors. Pledges thus far total more than $100,000.

He said title to the property will be held by the Blumenthal Foundation until the governing board is completed and can make arrangements to administer the home.

Present board members are Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal, Moses Richter of Mount Gilead, S. W. Guyes of Salisbury, A. M. Fleishman of Fayetteville, Miss Gertrude Weil of Goldsboro, Morris Sosnik and Morris Brenner of Winston-Salem.

Total board membership is expected to number about 25 persons from throughout the state.

The project was adopted originally by the women's organization during Mrs. Blumenthal's presidency, 1956-59.

After leaving office, she became women's chairman of the project and enlisted support of the men's group, headed by her husband.

"With plans to be drawn and funds to be raised," Blumenthal said, "it will be 12 to 18 months before guests can be accommodated. Plans are to provide for 50 guests at the start."

HISTORY OF THE N. C. ASSN. OF JEWISH WOMEN

INDEX BY ADMINISTRATIONS

Charter Members

N. C. ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH WOMEN

CHARTER MEMBERS

Organized Jan. 11-12, 1921 at Goldsboro, N. C.
by Mrs. Sol Weil, founder

FAYETTEVILLE

Mrs. K. Stein
*Mrs. Elizabeth Schwartz

GREENSBORO

Mrs. Benjamin Bates
Mrs. Julius Cone
*Mrs. A. M. Lindau
Mrs. S. J. Lindau
Mrs. Eli Oettinger
*Miss Etta Spier
*Mrs. E. Sternberger
Mrs. Charles Weill

KINSTON

*Mrs. Eli Nachamson
*Mrs. H. Stadiem
*Miss May Oettinger

NEW BERN

*Mrs. M. H. Sultan
*Mrs. Isaac Cohn

RALEIGH

*Mrs. B. S. Aronson
*Mrs. S. Berwanger
*Mrs. H. L. Cohen
Mrs. E. J. Ellisberg
*Mrs. J. L. Emanuel
*Mrs. M. Rosenthal
Mrs. Sig Schafer
*Mrs. A. Seligson

ROCKY MOUNT

*Mrs. Eli Epstein
Mrs. Dave Edwards
*Mrs. S. Fliegel

STATESVILLE

*Mrs. J. H. Hoffman

WILMINGTON

Mrs. Henry Bear
Mrs. Sadie Lee Bear
*Mrs. L. Bluethenthal
Mrs. G. Dannenbaum
*Mrs. Ella Mark Jacobi
*Mrs. S. Solomon

WILSON

Mrs. Elmer Oettinger

GOLDSBORO

Mrs. C. M. Avery
*Mrs. Jacob Cohen
*Mrs. Yetta Cohn
Miss Byrdie Cohn
*Mrs. John Dortch
Mrs. N. A. Edwards
Mrs. Asher Edwards *
*Mrs. N. J. Edwards
*Mrs. Julius Cohen
*Mrs. M. N. Epstein
*Mrs. W. A. Heilig
*Mrs. Joseph Isaacs
*Mrs. A. A. Joseph
*Mrs. H. M. Kadis
*Mrs. C. Z. Kadis
Mrs. J. M. Meyers
*Mrs. A. Oettinger
Mrs. M. Sherman
Mrs. A. M. Shrago
*Mrs. Henry Weil
*Mrs. Sol Weil
Miss Gertrude Weil
Mrs. Leslie Weil
*Mrs. Lionel Weil
Mrs. Vance M. Weill

* DECEASED

HISTORY OF THE

N. C. ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH WOMEN

By Emma R. Edwards

First Decade: 1921 to 1931

Why bother with a History of the N. C. Assn. of Jewish Women? To a handful of loyal women, every detail of a dozen conventions and a score or more of meetings is indelibly stamped in their minds & hearts; yet today this handful of women does not work alone. Unto them have been added others -- fresh, young, eager, equally loyal to the ideals of the Assn., though not so familiar with its early struggles. It is a chronicle of noble effort and glorious achievement, reflecting honor upon many, and well worth the telling.

In the address of welcome at the 1st annual conference in Greensboro in 1922 Mrs. Chas. Weill said that to Emerson's statement that "An organization is the lengthened shadow of one man," might be added "or one woman." Without Mrs. Sol Weil of Goldsboro such a force as the N.C.A.J.W. would have been much later in developing or might not now be in existence.

Organization Meeting, Goldsboro

On Jan. 11-12, 1921, thirty-two representative Jewish women from all portions of the State gathered in Goldsboro at the invitation of Mrs. Sol Weil, and there within the time-honored walls of Oheb Sholom Temple the Assn. was born.

Jews had lived in N. C. for more than a century; though not numerous, their fine qualities as citizens and their deep-rooted Jewish loyalties had won respect for them wherever they had settled. Formal congregations were few in number, and organized Sunday Schools were scarce. In 1921 there were only two Rabbis in the entire State, in Goldsboro and Wilmington.

Discussions by women who had worked alone, each striving for the same goal, showed the need of a strong central organization for spiritual and social development. Topics considered have a present-day sound: Synagogue attendance, Religious Education, Religion in the Home, better Sunday School text-books, Jewish charities, and Jewish music. The historical background of the period is indicated by the subject of the main address "Henry Ford and his Anti-Jewish Propaganda," as ably discussed by Dr. Louis Mendoza of Norfolk, Va. The usual tea and reception were sandwiched in between business sessions. Those who attended were guests in private homes.

Born with unusual strength, the organization reflected the broad-mindedness of its originators in the Object of the Association, thus expressed: "To deepen the religious life, to stimulate interest in Jewish affairs, and to increase Jewish community activity."

The founder of the Association, feeling that the task of drawing together Jewish women of all branches of the faith might be beset with difficulties, spoke thus in her address of welcome, "Let us above all remember that we are children of many mothers, that we have different points of view, different methods of reasoning. Let us be just to each other, give to each other the same patient hearing that we ask for ourselves. Let those of us who have orthodox views believe that the radical views may be as sincere as our own; those of us who are conservative or radical believe the others just as honest as ourselves, so that harmony and peace may mark our going as our coming." Lest there be whisperings that the new organization leaned one way or the other, a resolution stated in clear-cut language, "That this organization shall be allied with neither conservative nor liberal Judaism, nor be federated with any national Jewish organization; but a State unit whose purpose shall be to promote Jewish communal life."

The Association is still the only organization of its kind in the world; no other known body has for its purpose the uniting of Jewish women of Reform, Orthodox, and Conservative leanings, into a state-wide group. This unique quality is often cited.

First Officers Chosen

A tentative constitution was submitted and definitely adopted at the next annual conference; its provisions for membership, its offices, chairmanships, and directorships have been modified only slightly. The first officers selected to guide the destinies of the Association were:

Chairman	Mrs. Sol Weil	Goldsboro
1st Vice-chmn.	Mrs. E. Sternberger	Greensboro
2d Vice-chmn.	Mrs. K. Stein	Fayetteville
3d Vice-chmn.	Mrs. G. Lichtenfels	Asheville
Recording Secy.	Mrs. J. W. Cone	Greensboro
Corresponding"	Mrs. M. Rosenthal	Raleigh
Treasurer	Mrs. Elmer Oettinger	Wilson

The first decisions of the new executive board were to order stationery, to invite all jewish women in N. C. to join the Assn., and to employ Mrs. Sadie Lee Bear, of Raleigh, as Field Secretary at a salary of $1,000 a year. Executive board meetings were held in almost every instance in Raleigh, first at the old Yarborough Hotel and (after it was built) at the Temple Beth Or. Officers, chairmen, and directors came together in the intervals between conferences, usually in October, to plan the next year's work.

For six months of 1921, Mrs. Bear traveled to several sections of the State, often in company with Mrs. Weil, but by the Fall she found that she was unable to continue the work, and Mrs. Hattie Spier Weinberg of Greensboro was elected in her place as State Organizer. Mrs. Weinberg had been living in Newark, N. J., but was a N. C. Jewess of many capabilities and accomplishments.

Field Worker

Next to Mrs. Weil, the name of Mrs. Weinberg stands out during the early years of the Assn. as a potent force in drawing together hundreds of women, many of whom had lived for years without hearing a word

of Judaism outside their own homes. During Mrs. Weinberg's four years as State Organizer (later called Field Secretary), there was not a community, large or small, that she did not visit, taking with her the gospel of unity and cooperation in the name of Judaism, pleading eloquently for the fuller and finer observance of Jewish customs in the home, and better religious school advantages for the child. Mrs. Weinberg proudly stated that she had shaken hands with every Jewess in N. C. at that time. She was sent out at intervals to schools and institutes in order to bring to her work the most up-to-date methods known, some of these being the Menorah Summer School, the Jewish Chautauqua, and various national conventions.

The first efforts of the State organization to develop local groups or branches of the N. C. A. J. W. were not always successful. Where one or more Jewish organizations already existed in a small community, the wisdom of bringing in another organization was questioned; the gradual working out of District supervision and the furtherance of the aims of the Assn. by local organizations already existing seems eminently more logical and satisfactory.

Greensboro Convention 1922

Just twelve months from the date of organization, the first annual conference was held in Greensboro Sun., Mon., and Tues., Jan. 22-24, 1922. Acquiring 450 paid-up members for a year-old organization was the outstanding report of the conference, which was held in the Guilford County Court House and the Imperial Theatre, there being no Temple yet built in Greensboro, and the attendance was 79 delegates. As with all new organizations, there was an excess of system, one delegate being allowed for each ten Assn. members. Credentials of delegates were examined by a special committee and a roll call was made. All of this has been completely discarded; a more informal and elastic organization could not be found anywhere today.

At Greensboro as well as the two succeeding conferences in Wilmington and Raleigh, proceedings were taken down verbatim by a court stenographer at forty dollars per conference; efficient recording secretaries who have handled this same task ably and without expense and have left behind very superior typewritten records and minute books have been Mrs. J. W. Cone, Greensboro; Mrs. A. Oettinger, Goldsboro; Miss Amy Emanuel, Asheville; Mrs. Clara Cheek, Greensboro; and Mrs. N. A. Edwards, Goldsboro. Various other members have substituted when secretaries could not be present.

Corresponding secretaries, who have usually lived in the same towns with the various presidents in order to facilitate handling of mail, have been Mrs. M. Rosenthal, Raleigh; Miss Ruth Roth, Henderson; Mrs. Julius Cohen, Goldsboro; Mrs. A. B. Sternberger, Wilmington; Mrs. A. Oettinger, Goldsboro; and Mrs. J. L. Emanuel, Raleigh; Mrs. J. P. Shrago, Goldsboro; and Mrs. Nathan Sutker, Charlotte. When Mrs. M. Rosenthal found it necessary to resign her position as first corresponding secretary, she wrote with prophetic hope: "As I look down the vista of years, I see your problems solved and your undertakings blossoming."

Headliners at the Greensboro conference were Mrs. Felix Levy of Chicago, and Miss Elsa Wiehl of New York who spoke on "Influences Affecting Development of Children in Religious Schools." Another speaker was Mr. Sidney Kusworm of Dayton who talked on B'nai B'rith; Drs. George Solomon of Savannah and Edw. M. Calisch of Richmond were present and participated in the discussions. Rabbi A. B. Rhine of Hot Springs, Ark., made a plea for the

Leo N. Levi Memorial Hospital Fund; after careful consideration, the cause was endorsed, but to the local committees was left the privilege of contributing. This precedent was recalled at the next conference in Wilmington when aid was sought for the Florence Crittenden Home of Charlotte.

"No Entangling Alliances."

Another decision with a far-reaching effect was in declining to send an official delegate to a regional Sisterhood conv'n. On several occasions national organizations, less broad in scope, have sought to adopt the Assn., seeking affiliation, but the members and officers have repeatedly decreed that there should be "no entangling alliances."

18 local reports were heard. Committees were few but active: Program, Religious Instruction, Finance, and Auditing. Except during the time she was president, Miss Gertrude Weil of Goldsboro has been Program chmn.; she has corresponded with almost everyone of any Jewish consequence in the U.S. in regard to speech-making, methods of pedagogy, or other vital matters. Her letter files hold a rich collection of autographs, and the speakers she has secured have always been inspiring. Realizing the importance of bringing spiritual leaders to the membership, the Assn. has always allowed an ample sum for this item. Rabbi Stephen S. Wise of the Free Synagogue, N. Y. C., in declining an invitation to address the Wilmington conference in 1922 because of a conflict, wrote Miss Weil, "It seems to me that N. C. is so finely loyal from the Jewish point of view that it is much less in need of help and stimulus from without than other States."

The Finance Committee's work was in raising money for a $2500-$3000 annual budget. At each conference pledges were asked from communities and individuals. Goldsboro always led the State, but its $400 pledge was largely the gift of Mrs. Sol Weil, the founder. Other pledges ranged from $5-$100. There were several masculine patrons listed; another metropolitan idea classed those paying more than one-dollar memberships as associate members. Mrs. G. Dannenbaum of Wilmington was active head of this committee when the obligations of the Assn. were heaviest. All money-handling passed into the hands of the Treasurer after the services of the Field Secretary were discontinued.

Religious Instruction

The first Religious Instruction Committee consisted of some of the Assn.'s best material: Mrs. G. Lichtenfels, Ashevlle, chmn.; Miss Ruth Roth, Henderson; Miss Gertrude Weil; Miss Etta Spier, Greensboro; and Mrs. J. L. Emanuel, Raleigh. Mrs. Lichtenfels assumed her duties with a ringing challenge, "Let us make the names of Moses, David, and Jacob as familiar as those of Washington and Napoleon." Leadership of this committee rotated among the first five to compose it, with Miss Minnie Munich (later Mrs. Albert Klein of Greensboro) of Oxford succeeding.

It was planned to bring lecturers, Sunday school organizers, and itinerant teachers to the State; Mrs. H. Bluehhenthal of Wilmington was chairman of this sub-committee, but the high fees asked by those whom the Assn. invited made the work limited. After a thorough trial, the sub-committee was abolished.

Under the Religious Instruction committee, a special committee to procure a Traveling Library was appointed, Miss Ruth Roth as chairman.

Booklets of prayers for children were printed, tracts were distributed, and news bulletins were issued from time to time as the Assn. grew. A Year Book published for the first time in 1922-23 contained the Field Secretary's report, officers and committee chairmen, and lists of members by towns; this necessitated the addition of Printing, Publicity, and Membership committees.

Self-Pay Plan Adopted

Coinciding with the 5th District B'nai B'rith meeting, the Greensboro conference was studded with brilliant social affairs, five in all, climaxed by a banquet and a ball. As a result, steps were taken the following year to simplify entertainment and to put the conference on a self-paying basis, though fond hostesses still demanded their right to vie with each other. With the change from private hospitality to paying their own hotel bills, the atmosphere became more business-like, and smaller towns no longer hesitated to extend invitations for the annual conference.

All first officers were re-elected for a second term as allowed in the Constitution, and the time of meeting was changed to Fall because January bad weather might decrease attendance. Thus two conferences fell in one year -- Greensboro in January, 1922 and Wilmington in November 1922. At the Wilmington meeting, however, sentiment favored a change to Spring because women in business found it hard to leave home in the Fall. The Spring time of meeting seemed ideal and with one exception (June 1925 meeting in Asheville) all subsequent conferences have been held in March or April. As two conferences were held in 1922, the next year was skipped in order to establish the Spring schedule in 1924.

In 1922 the women were so concerned about the dearth of rabbis in N. C. that they wrote to the theological schools about it. They were advised that the demand exceeded the supply. Conditions improved rapidly, for by 1926 there were ten rabbis in the State, representing all branches of the faith. The splendid work of the communities not fortunate enough to have a rabbi was commended; if they accomplished that much without a rabbi, what could they not do if they had one?

The contributions made by the rabbis of the State toward realizing the ideals of the N. C. A. J. W. have been earnest and important. They have always been ready to visit other communities, often defraying their own expenses, although this failure to reimburse has been frowned upon by the Assn. At all times the rabbis of the State have served as chairmen of various committees or assisted in planning programs for meetings, institutes, and social gatherings. Theirs has been a pioneering task and they have in all instances measured up to the responsibilities of their high calling. The rabbis of the State were made honorary members of the Assn. in 1924.

It is not clear whether or not the formation of the N. C. A. J. W. had any influence in extending to women the privileges of membership in congregations throughout the State; the fact remains, however, that women were first allowed a voice in congregational affairs soon after the Assn. was organized.

Wilmington Conference

In the Fall of 1922, 75 delegates from 12 towns met in Wilmington for a three-day session commencing Sunday evening Nov. 19. The rooms of the Harmony Circle were used as headquarters. Wilmington was the earliest Jewish stronghold in N. C. and the notable work carried on by the three women's organizations (the oldest dating back to 1872) has received national recognition. For several years Wilmington furnished the largest number of members in the Assn. and the community has furnished more than its quota of leaders, as is also true of Goldsboro, Greensboro, and Raleigh.

Mrs. Alexander (Rebekah) Kohut, one of the two best-loved Jewish women in America and perhaps in the whole world, spoke at the Wilmington conference in 1922; the other of these two women, Henrietta Szold, founder of Hadassah, spoke in Wilmington eight years later in 1931 when that city entertained the conference a second time. Mrs. Kohut asked no fee for herself, but requested that money reserved for a speaker might be forwarded for European reconstruction work, a major project of the National Council of Jewish Women. This was done, and the $150 thus donated represents the single exception to the Assn.'s rule not to contribute directly to worthy causes.

Other speakers on the Wilmington program who were heard with enthusiasm were Mrs. Jos. Wiesenfeld of Baltimore, president of the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, and Miss Jeannette Miriam Goldberg of New York, secretary of the Jewish Chautauqua Society. Each of these ladies spoke on the subjects nearest to their hearts, and Mrs. Wiesenfeld asked that Baltimore be notified whenever Jews from N. C. were ill in Baltimore hospitals.

Mrs. S. Mendelssohn, wife of the local rabbi, voiced her annual plea for better religious observance in the home and the school. This led to a spirited discussion of Saturday (Sabbath) shopping, the observance of Christmas and the use of the Christmas tree in Jewish homes. All regarded this as a thoughtless concession to life roundabout and attached to it no religious significance but favored the abolition of those practices.

In Nov. 1922, the Assn. boasted 556 members from 46 towns, a tribute to Mrs. Weinberg's fine work. District meetings were getting under way and Sunday school work was achieving remarkable results. Instances were told of children who were taken 35 or 40 miles every Sunday to towns where religious schools were already organized. Contact with isolated families was an important part of the Field Worker's program. Home study courses, 900 children's prayer booklets, Sunday school material, and membership blanks had been sent out on request. The traveling Library with 119 volumes donated or purchased had been kept on the move. An emergency Loan Fund for medical aid for college students had been started in Greensboro in the name of the Assn., a forerunner of the wider-reaching Sophie Einstein Student Loan Fund established in 1925 by Mrs. Sol Weil in memory of her Mother.

State Divided Into Districts

A committee was appointed to divide the State into districts with neighboring communities grouped for better contacts. Simplified entertainment was still talked, although the Wilmington meeting featured a reception, a tea, a box luncheon at Wrightsville Beach, a luncheon, and

dramatic sketches. A two-day conference was favored instead of the three-day affairs formerly held. After the meeting a collection was taken up for a stranded Jewish actor with a broken shoulder; $100 resulted.

At each of the yearly meetings an effort was made to take the organization close to its members. When sorrow befell, a tribute of respect was paid. Speakers and Assn. workers were given rising votes of thanks for their fine services. In the enlarged work of the Assn., many of these appropriate gestures have had to be omitted.

As officers had served two terms, new officers were elected, headed by Mrs. Sidney J. Stern of Greensboro. Mrs. Sol Weil was made honorary president for life. Mrs. Weil, in surrendering the gavel to Mrs. Stern, summed up her two years' activity as first president by saying, "Loyalty of workers has made my work a burden happily borne."

No 1923 meetings were held in order to start with the Spring schedule in 1924. Two executive meetings were necessary, however, to keep the affairs of the Assn. moving along; these were held in Raleigh in June and October. Mrs. Weinberg was re-elected in October in spite of her resignation and her title was changed from State Organizer to Field Secretary. The traveling library had been sent to 14 towns; it was located with the Secretary to whom requests were sent; thus the residence of the Field Secretary became the official headquarters of the Assn.

At the third annual conference held in Raleigh March 23-25, 1924, 589 members of the Assn. were reported. 107 delegates attended the sessions held at the State Theatre and the Woman's Club, and 22 towns were represented. The Sunday evening feature was a talk on Jewish music with musical illustrations by Mr. Geo. Castelle of Baltimore, Cantor of the Madison Ave. Temple. It was a coincidence that the feature speaker selected for the next Raleigh convention in 1932 was Rabbi Morris Lazaron, also of the Madison Ave. Temple. Another speaker was Mrs. Palmer Jerman, president of the N. C. Federation of Women's Clubs, who spoke on "Organization," declaring that the greatest need in any body was the development of leaders. Everywhere the conference was held, city and club officials welcomed the visitors.

Recognition for Association

Recognition from the outside world had come to the N.C. A. J. W., and interest from other states was shown in inquiries addressed to its officers, stating that other states desired to model their existing or projected organizations along similar lines. In 1924 the Assn. was listed in the American Jewish Year Book. In September of the previous Fall, representatives of the Assn. had participated in the observance of Women's Day at the Made-In-Carolina Exposition in Charlotte. At the Jewish Chautauqua held that winter in Washington, D. C., North Carolina sent more teachers than any other state. Copies of the Assn.'s annual Year Book are filed with the Library of Congress, the University of N. C., and with national Jewish organizations requesting them.

As early as 1924 the $3000 budget of the Assn. was becoming increasingly difficult to raise. No increase in dues was considered and a registration fee was voted down also; only by community and individual pledges could enough be raised to assure continuance of the office of

Field Secretary. In addition to a monthly salary of $100 the expense account for railroad fare averaged $30 a month; whenever possible the Secretary was entertained in the homes of Assn. members. As time went on, the activities of the Secretary had to be curtailed because there were not sufficient funds for her to take frequent trips to distant points.

Field Secretary's Fine Work

The Field Secretary's work was an investment that paid rich dividends; it would be difficult to say what the Assn. would have been like today had it not been for the whole-souled efforts of Mrs. Weinberg, who often said that the organization was simply translating into reality the vision that Mrs. Sol Weil had of it. It goes without saying that Mrs. Weil was always on hand for conferences and executive meetings except in case of illness, and even after she became an honorary officer she always welcomed her share of responsibility.

A fine contribution to the aims of the Assn. was the offer of a silver loving cup by the Carolina Jewish Society, consisting of young Jewish students of the University of N. C. at Chapel Hill, as an incentive to better Sunday school attendance. This group of young men was warmly thanked. Durham was the first cup winner; two successive years' awarding brought permanent possession.

An interesting discussion at the Raleigh conference undertook to take the collection of donations for hospitals and orphanages out of the hands of solicitors working on a percentage basis, and place such collections in the hands of a local joint committee, thus following the community chest pattern, but no action was taken other than to request solicitors not to make Saturday calls. Congregational singing was endorsed, and the fiscal year of the Assn. was designated as running from one conference to the next.

Miss Gertrude Weil reporting for the Religious Instruction committee said that "In the days of the Ghetto there was no press of other opinions on the Jewish child, but today at every turn the child meets different ideas; parents should first formulate their own beliefs clearly in order to have definite beliefs to hand on to their children."

Local reports always took up the major portion of the Monday morning and afternoon business sessions and showed varied activity -- social service work, sewing for hospitals at home and abroad, adoption of war orphans, work with immigrants, reconstruction work in European Jewish settlements, Palestine supplies, contributions to various national funds, care of cemeteries, hospitality to students in college towns, study of current problems and legislation affecting Jews, and money-raising of many kinds, none too small to receive attention, and none too large to be well-managed. The work of the larger communities reached its full flowering in such places as Greensboro, Raleigh, and Wilmington.

Toast in Song

Mrs. J. L. Emanuel of Raleigh was made president to succeed Mrs. Stern, whose activities continued uninterrupted in many roles. An enjoyable tea and reception as well as a ball at the Sir Walter Hotel were important parts of the conference program. From a song sheet used at the Raleigh conference is taken the following toast to the Assn. sung to the tune of Maryland, My Maryland:

"Oh, N. C. A., Oh, N. C. A.
Your work is felt both far and near.
Religious ideals are upheld,
Your fame has spread from year to year;
Conventions are a raft of fun,
There's work enough, though, to be done,
Oh N. C. A., Oh N. C. A.
Our hearts are with you every day."

During the summer of 1924 plans were formulated by the Religious Instruction committee for holding a one-day Teachers' Institute. 35 attended the gathering in Raleigh on Sunday Sept. 21, and demonstration work with Raleigh children supplemented the discussions led by Rabbi F. I. Rypins of Wilmington, Misses Ruth Roth and Etta Spier, Mrs. Weinberg, and the chairman Miss Gertrude Weil. The name of the committee was changed from Religious Instruction to Religious Education. At about the same time, attractive Jewish New Year cards were sent out to every member of the Assn. by the president and the executive board. The Year Book included a Jewish calendar for the first time.

Asheville Convention 1925

In February of the next year an executive committee meeting considered the possibility of conducting the Assn. without a Field Worker because of the reduced budget. The outstanding impressions brought away from the Asheville conference held June 21-23, 1925, were the president's (Mrs. Emanuel's) fine tribute to the work of Mrs. Weinberg, and Mrs. Weinberg's final report as Field Secretary, containing a resume of the work of the Assn. since its organization. Mrs. Weinberg closed her report with a charge to each member:

"The work of the world is done by few;
God asks that a part be done by you."

The Asheville conference, timed in order to take advantage of Asheville's natural beauty, was attended by 100 women, with headquarters at the Geo. Vanderbilt Hotel. On Sunday evening members enjoyed a musical program by the Temple Beth Ha Tephila choir and an address "Modern Women in Israel" by Mrs. Rebecca M. Seligman of New York who later came to live in Warren Plains, N. C. Business sessions on Monday and Tuesday were interspersed with social affairs, notably a Mah Jongg and Bridge party on the roof of the Battery Park Hotel, and automobile drives around Asheville and surrounding country as well as a trip to the Vanderbilt estate.

Local reports showed progress everywhere although membership seemed to be at a standstill. The Religious School work seemed to be the most important program of the Assn., and it was urged that annual summer institutes be held similar to the one held in Raleigh the Fall before. A committee on Ceremonials (later changed to Exhibits) was asked to secure a suitable display for the next conference. One of the aims for the coming year was to compile a directory of all Jewish women living in N. C. For years this need was felt but little was done about it until Mrs. Emil Rosenthal during her first term as president in 1930 set herself this task, completing it in time for the 1931 conference.

The report of the special committee on districting the State, headed by Miss Gertrude Weil, grouped various communities into nine districts (later reduced to eight); a map was prepared showing geographical divisions,

and a program outlined for district groups to follow. Mrs. Emanuel found it impossible to continue the presidency, and Miss Gertrude Weil was elected in her stead.

To the Asheville meeting came as a bride Mrs. F. I. Rypins of Wilmington, formerly Miss Ruth Roth of Henderson. This marriage has always been looked upon as an Assn. romance, for both Rabbi and Mrs. Rypins have contributed abundantly of their energy and enthusiasm; they soon thereafter moved to Greensboro, following a short stay in Roanoke, Va.

Durham Host in 1926

At the fifth annual conference held in Durham Feb. 28, Mar. 1-2, 1926, attendance increased to 125 and membership was reported as 613, also showing a decided increase even without a field worker. This conference was held at the Washington Duke Hotel. Here was displayed the first exhibit, a number of Ceremonial objects, assembled by Mrs. H. L. Cohen of Raleigh. The President's message again called attention to the two-fold character of the Assn., spiritual and social, and discussed its advantages to all. But for exchange of ideas at district meetings, communities would not know what other Jewish groups in their midst were doing. A Lecture Committee, headed by Rabbi Milton Ellis of Greensboro, offered to provide speakers for local appearances when needed.

An interesting talk on the work of the Carolina Jewish Society was made by Mr. Norman Block, a student at the University, closing with an invitation to a tea at Carolina Inn at Chapel Hill. A reception and luncheon were also given by Durham hostess groups.

The main address of the Durham conference was made by Rabbi Wm. Fineshriber of Kenesath Israel Temple, Philadelphia, whose congregation consisted of more Jews than lived in North Carolina at that time. His subject "The Challenge to Jewish Womanhood" was stirringly presented; he told his hearers that if the men in N. C. were working as hard as the women they would soon have the best Jewish state in America. "Why do we worship bigness?" asked Rabbi Fineshriber; "The finest work of Jews in America has been in small towns." Addresses were made also by Mrs. A. H. Vixman of Pittsburg, and Mrs. I. Shapiro of Baltimore, representing National Hadassah.

Interest in the Library was lagging and suggestions to increase its popularity were given. A report of two Teachers' Institutes held simultaneously in Goldsboro and in Greensboro on Sunday Oct. 18, 1925 showed appreciative attendance at both points. New Sunday schools were springing up on all sides, and everywhere healthy activity was in evidence. Members were urged to subscribe to Jewish papers and magazines, as they had been urged to place English-Jewish Bibles in their homes at an earlier conference; local organizations were urged to affiliate with their respective national organizations for strength and inspiration.

District Directors

The first group of District Directors appointed since the division of the entire State into districts made their report. The idea of districts seemed to round out the organization of the Assn. and the future seemed bright, although it was difficult to group communities to the best advantage

for themselves and for the Assn. The first directors of these eight districts were:

District	#1 --	Mrs. G. Lichtenfels	Asheville
"	2	Mrs. Chas. K. Hecht	Charlotte
"	3	Mrs. S. J. Stern	Greensboro
"	4	Mrs. J. L. Emanuel	Raleigh
"	5	Mrs. K. Stein	Fayetteville
"	6	Mrs. Eli Nachamson	Kinston
"	7	Mrs. H. Bluethenthal	Wilmington
"	8	Mrs. Otto Meyer	Enfield

In addition to the District Directors, there were three Directors-at-Large named, chosen from the eastern, central, and western parts of the State, and named for one, two, or three years in order not to have all terms expire at once. They were given no specific duties other than to deliberate at Board meetings.

Sophia Einstein Loan Fund

At the 1926 conference in Durham was made the announcement of a Student Loan Fund, created by Mrs. Sol Weil of Goldsboro and first presented to the Executive Board at its previous Fall meeting in October 1925. This Loan Fund was to consist of a gift by Mrs. Weil of $600 annually to be administered through an Educational committee to be appointed by the Assn., for loans to worthy students who would otherwise be unable to secure a higher education. It was named in honor of Mrs. Weil's mother Mrs. Sophia Einstein who had died at the age of 88 a few months earlier.

Rules for the administration of the Loan Fund had been carefully drawn up by a committee consisting of Mrs. Weil, chairman, Mrs. J. W. Davis of Smithfield, and Mrs. J. W. Cone of Greensboro, who succeeded Mrs. Weil as chairman a few months later. The rules stated that the fund should be non-sectarian but that preference should be given to Jewish students until the fund had grown larger. Conditions of repayment within three years after graduation and terms of interest were carefully considered by comparison with many such funds existing. Mrs. Weil's noble offer was accepted with gratitude and enthusiasm.

By the time the 6th annual conference was held in Winston-Salem March 6,7,8, 1927, the Assn. had gone on a self-payment basis and no more courtesy meals were allowed, although receptions and teas were still permissible. At the Robt. E. Lee Hotel, 150 delegates gathered, and for the first time a Sunday afternoon meeting for men was held. Heretofore the men had come along as chauffeurs if they came at all, and they kept more or less in the background, but the fine speakers were too good to be enjoyed by women alone, and more men came along each year.

First Men's Meeting 1927

Presiding at this first men's meeting was Mr. N. W. Jacobi of Wilmington and the subject, a sufficiently broad one, was "Community Problems and Activities." Great interest in this innovation was shown and requests for its continuance were made. Since Sunday seemed the ideal time for bringing men and women together from towns within driving distance, the feature address of the conference was scheduled for Sunday evening. Because most of

the men returned home Sunday night, leaving their wives to remain over for Monday's business sessions, there were no more Monday night dances.

On Sunday evening 300 Jews, the largest Jewish audience yet gathered together at a State-wide conference, heard Dr. Julian Morgenstern of Cincinnati, president of Hebrew Union College, speak. He declared, "Religion must grow; like everything else in life, it cannot stand still.....Judaism needs no preservation; it needs only to be interpreted to be perpetuated." The intellectual quality of these addresses surely must have been reflected in the thoughts carried back to each community by the men and women who heard them.

Loan Fund Aid Begun

The Loan Fund had been put into operation in June 1926, and by the time the colleges opened in the Fall, many requests for help had been received. Three students had been loaned sums averaging $200 apiece. The idea of popularizing the Loan Fund did not develop until after Mrs. Weil's death in 1928. Before that time the $600 contributed annually by Mrs. Weil represented the bulk of the sum available.

The membership committee was assisted by the various District Directors in securing and collecting dues from members; this work was subsequently turned over to the Treasurer. District Directors were allowed to draw on the treasury for routine expenses. To the 1st Vice-president was given the responsibility of overseeing district work; later the other two were given a share in this also. All presidents were amazingly healthy and able to carry on their duties without often calling upon their vice-presidents, whose duties were therefore light. The budget was able to operate at a reduced figure without the expense of a field worker, and, since there was no further need for large contributions, dollar memberships made the organization truly democratic.

The second evening program of the Winston-Salem conference continued a custom that was gradually evolving into a definite rule -- letting the local members of the Assn. provide the entertainment. Nothing took place in the way of public business or entertainment on Tuesdays any more, only unfinished business and executive meetings; soon Tuesday was eliminated altogether from the program and executive meetings were held Monday before or after the closing evening sessions, enabling those who lived near enough to return home. For its Monday evening program, Winston-Salem invited the Temple Players from Greensboro, who delighted the throng assembled at the Calvin H. Wiley School with their masterly production of "Disraeli" with Rabbi Milton Ellis in the title role. The entire cast was excellent, and visiting Jews felt gratified that in one N. C. community (Greensboro) there were enough interested amateurs to form their own Jewish Theatrical League. The intermission offered orchestral selections.

Song To Gertrude

Miss Gertrude Weil of Goldsboro, who might truly be called "the Jack of all trades" of the Assn., was completing her second term as president and the following toast sung at the luncheon to the tune of "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" showed how folks felt:

"Let us tell you, Gertrude,
We're in love with you!
We like the way you lead us
And the things you do.
In the N. C. meetings,
We have learned that you are true;
Let us tell you, Gertrude
We're in love with you."

Group singing was a scarce feature and soon disappeared altogether. Excellent music has been provided on every conference program, and there are throughout the State many Jewish musicians of great talent; individual soloists heard oftenest were Mrs. Maurice Honigman of Gastonia and Mrs. Iser L. Freund of Goldsboro. Larger Synagogues and Temples have provided fine choir music.

Miss Weil was succeeded in the president's chair by Mrs. F. I. Rypins whom Mrs. Weinberg aptly called "the livest wire in the State for Jewish work."

1928 Gathering In Charlotte

The 1928 conference was held in Charlotte on March 18-19, 1928 with headquarters at the Hotel Charlotte and 173 delegates registered from 42 towns. Membership in the Assn. had climbed to 781 but not more than half of this figure was paid up. Mrs. Sol Weil's absence because of illness was noted with deep regret.

The second Men's conference held on Sunday p.m. was presided over by Mr. Sidney J. Stern of Greensboro, and dealt with "Jewish Social Work in North Carolina." The only conclusion reached seemed to be that the women should be asked to assist in working out any problems arising.

Sunday evening Maurice Samuel spoke on "The Destiny of American Jewry," tracing the history of the Jews in the past and challenging the Jew of the present to realize his destiny. Another speaker was Mr. Charles Feidelson, executive secretary of the Birmingham Ala. Young Men's Hebrew Assn.

Sunday Schools Increase

While on the one hand 23 religious schools in the State were reported and 29 communities heard from, the Library chairman stated that interest in the Library had waned and that few or no requests for books had come in. The suggestion was made that the entire library be placed with any Sunday school that desired it until requested elsewhere. An interesting display of Jewish books, games, and plays was shown and orders were taken for Hagaddahs and other articles displayed.

The Assn. offered to assist financially in bringing to the State Sunday school organizers. It was thought best on account of the expense involved to discontinue efforts to secure lecturers. The printing of bulletins from time to time was discouraged, and the Year Book was the only official publication of the Assn.; it carried a Jewish calendar and much other timely information, making it a miniature encyclopedia, for it fitted a letter-size envelope.

Five students had received aid from the Sophia Einstein Loan Fund and many more requests had come in than could be granted; letters of gratitude were read from some of the students thus helped. Since the fund was in its infancy, no repayments could be expected for several years; Mrs. Cone asked the members to talk up the Loan Fund at all district meetings.

The loving cup offered by the Carolina Jewish Society for Sunday school attendance was withdrawn because of lack of interest, this being explained because the rules were not definite. It was decided that retiring presidents should be ex-officio Board members for one year following office. The Assn. had been represented at the Parental Institute and on the committee for a Survey of Women in Industry. Resolutions of sympathy were sent to the family of the late J. L. Mayerburg, Goldsboro rabbi for 37 years.

Mrs. Rypins was re-elected president but later in the year she tendered her resignation when she moved out of the State with her husband who had accepted a call to Roanoke, Va. At the executive meeting in Sept. 1928, Mrs. A. A. Joseph of Goldsboro, a sister of Mrs. Sol Weil, was appointed to fill out the unexpired term of Mrs. Rypins.

Back to Birthplace

At the 8th annual conference held in Goldsboro, the birthplace of the Assn., the two-day schedule was adhered to, Sun. and Mon. March 10-11, 1929. Another innovation -- group breakfasts -- enabled more reports to be heard in the single day allotted to business. At the Hotel Goldsboro, Woman's Club, and Oheb Sholom Temple, attendance passed the two-hundred mark. At the Men's conference Sunday p.m. this group (still called the "men's auxiliary") discussed a variety of topics with Goldsboro Rabbi I. L. Freund leading and Mr. S. J. Stern presiding. Women were always admitted to the men's meetings, for many families came early in the afternoon and the conference proper did not open until evening. The Sunday evening address by Miss Cecelia Razovsky, Secy. of the Dept. of Immigration Aid of the Natnl. Council of Jewish Women, brought out much light upon a subject never before dealt with by any Assn. speaker, and the problems confronting Jewish immigrants were ably presented. A brilliant reception followed.

Monday morning breakfasts of Council, Hadassah, and Sisterhood groups were held in different rooms and attended by 48 women who heard local reports of their respective organizations.

Mrs. Joseph, appointed to fill Mrs. Rypins' term, presided. A memorial service for her sister, the late Mrs. Sol Weil who died Nov. 11, 1928, was conducted preceding the Monday morning business session. Mrs. J. L. Emanuel of Raleigh, who was associated with Mrs. Weil from the very beginning of the organization that she founded, read a beautiful tribute portraying the universal quality of Mrs. Weil's activity in local, State, and national philanthropies and organizations. Mrs. Emanuel said in closing, "Let us honor her by carrying out the work which she so lovingly initiated and laid out for us." The service was concluded with Kaddish led by Rabbi Benj. Kelson of Wilmington and heard with profound emotion by all present. At Goldsboro in the Oheb Sholom Temple on the Jahrzeit (first anniversary) of her death, a bronze tablet was unveiled to the memory of Mrs. Weil with these words fittingly inscribed thereon: "She lived, loved, and inspired the beautiful in Judaism."

Religious School Growth

The number of religious schools had increased to 24, drawing children from 35 towns. Rabbi Gustave Falk of Cincinnati, representing the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, had visited several Sunday schools in the State during 1928. A new office was created and Mrs. Sidney Stern who had played an important part in the wise conduct of the Assn. from the beginning, was appointed Custodian, to keep permanently all Assn. records, minutes, programs, Year Books, and anything else of historical value.

The treasurer, Mrs. Eli Oettinger of Greensboro, had reorganized the system of book-keeping and had instituted a card filing system. Most worthily carrying the burden of receiving and paying out the Assn.'s money, especially handling the difficult job of collecting dues from several hundred Assn. members, several treasurers have served with efficiency and accuracy, as their auditors have testified. Those who have carried their part of the financial duties of the Assn. have been: Mrs. Elmer Oettinger of Wilson, Mrs. S. J. Stern of Greensboro, Mrs. M. Heilbroner of Tarboro, Mrs. J. W. Davis of Smithfield, Mrs. Moses Shapiro of Winston-Salem, Mrs. Eli Oettinger, and Mrs. Wm. Wallace of Statesville. Duties of the auditors have been annual inspection of the treasurer's books; the Assn. has many members skilled in modern business methods.

The Goldsboro conference closed with an Address by Rabbi Solomon A. Fineberg of White Plains, N. Y., on "Religious Education of Jewish Children." Local members gave a reception also.

Mrs. Emil Rosenthal of Raleigh was elected president to succeed Mrs. Joseph and Greensboro was selected as the next meeting place, thus starting out again over the same route traveled after the Assn. was organized in Goldsboro in 1921. Mrs. Rosenthal was the first president who had not 'come up from the ranks' having had little previous contact with the workings of the Assn. A born organizer and a systematic worker, Mrs. Rosenthal put into her office a vim and determination rarely seen, and many forward steps date back to her two years as Assn. president from 1929-31.

Year Book Grows

The 1929-30 Year Book published after the Goldsboro conference under Mrs. A. White as chairman of Printing was the first complete record of a conference sent out to members, since former books had contained condensed accounts and lists of officers and members only. Later when the Census was compiled by Mrs. Rosenthal, it was decided to send a Year Book to each Jewish woman in the State to acquaint all with the aims and achievements of the Assn. The Printing and Program allotments are the largest in the budget; the spread of knowledge through the printed page had always been a practice of the Assn. Many individual members have on hand today all of their Assn. Year Books.

The 9th annual conference in Greensboro March 2-3, 1930, broke all attendance records, 299 registering for the meeting held in the O'Henry Hotel. Another innovation was brought in, an early Sunday afternoon session for religious school teachers, followed by the regular executive board meeting and the Men's Conference simultaneously. Mr. Stern again led the men in their discussion, "Extending Our Jewish Communities."

N. C. Assn. Jewish Men Organized

The activity of the Jewish men of the State at last had a definite result, for there in Greensboro after the Sunday banquet, the N. C. Assn. of Jewish Men was formed, with the following named as incorporators:

S. O. Lindeman, chairman	Greensboro
Rabbi Milton Ellis	Greensboro
Rabbi Chaim Williamovsky	Durham
Jacob Stein	Fayetteville
L. Samuels	Raleigh

It was agreed that the annual dues should be $1.00 and that meetings should be held at the same time and place each year as the sister organization, the N. C. Assn. of Jewish Women.

The happy idea of combining the feature address with a banquet on Sunday evening was tried out in Greensboro and the response was overwhelming; only 110 reservations had been mailed in, but 330 men and women sat down to be served. What scrambling there was to feed everyone when markets were closed for Sunday! The choice menu selected could not be stretched, and substitutes were brought in of necessity, consisting of milk, eggs, lettuce, and ham, with ice cream in abundance! What Judge Wm. Lewis of Philadelphia had to say about "Kosher ham" will be long remembered; here's the story:

Two boys, a Jew and an Irishman, were brought into Judge Lewis' Juvenile Court for stealing hams and pineapples from a freight car. The Jewish boy owned up to taking the pineapples, but blamed the theft of the hams on his buddy. Said Judge Lewis, "Even if he was a ganuff (thief), he wanted me to know that he was a 'Kosher ganuff'."

A touching story was told by Judge Lewis of a trip he took to Lithuania, where he found a local synagogue that had been restored through the generosity of a N. C. Jew, Mr. J. Stein of Fayetteville. Judge Lewis' masterly address on "The Jewish Problem" made the two hours of waiting for food amply worthwhile.

Exhibitor Freund

Rabbi I. L. Freund of Goldsboro, the outstandingly successful chairman of Exhibits for a full decade, had on display in the foyer a series of large panels, prepared by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations for the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition held in Philadelphia. These panels presented in graphic form the history of the Jews in the United States from 1776 to 1926; the figures showing the record of Jewish soldiers who served with the American forces during the World War were particularly revealing, and refuted the idea that the Jew would not fight in time of war. These panels were offered for a limited time to communities desiring them and several localities took advantage of the offer. Seeing any exhibit to the best advantage in the midst of crowds and confusion is difficult, and the hope was expressed that future exhibits would have a definite place and time on the program.

The breakfast conferences were continued and drew an attendance of 44. The Jewish Youth movement as launched in N. C. by Raleigh Rabbi Carl Herman was discussed by Mrs. Rosenthal, and a committee was appointed to explore the possibilities of organizing Young Peoples' Leagues in N. C. and

to provide some social function at which young people might gather. Action taken regarding the Loan Fund abolished the payment of interest on money loaned to students and left to the discretion of the committee the time of repayment of loans.

Rabbi Milton Ellis announced an important project that was hailed with enthusiasm -- a summer camp institute for Sunday school teachers. Rabbis Ellis and Solomon (Savannah) conducted a camp for Jewish boys at Osceola near Hendersonville, and they offered to turn over the facilities of their camp after the close of the boys' term. The Institute was to last ten days the latter part of August; the only cost would be $15.00 a week for board. The study courses were to be conducted by extension professors from the Hebrew Union College of Cincinnati, whose co-operation would make the Institute possible; it was to be open to all Southeastern states. The Assn. heartily endorsed the plan and urged every community to send at least one teacher to the Institute.

More discussion about a Sunday school attendance award revived interest in the Carolina Jewish Society's silver loving cup and it was agreed to offer it again with clear-cut rules for 1930-31. Miss Minnie Munich was chairman of the Religious Education committee, to whose lot it fell to line up all Sunday schools in the State. A formal protest was entered against any calendar change in which the fixity of the Sabbath might be endangered, apropos of the national agitation for calendar reform. The 1931 program of the League of Women Voters was endorsed, a forerunner of the Legislative Council.

The traveling Library had given the whole Assn. concern, for here was a large appropriation tied up in books free for only return postage, with practically no reader interest. Mrs. A. A. Joseph of Goldsboro was asked to assume chairmanship of the Library in an effort to revive it, and her subsequent achievements bore out the wisdom of her selection.

Three engaging monologues were given at luncheon at the King Cotton Hotel by Mrs. Margaret Heyn Sanger of Toledo, sister of (the first) Mrs. Lionel Weil of Goldsboro. At previous conferences there had been occasional readings or recitations by amateur elocutionists which added greatly to the enjoyment of those who were slightly wearied by too close attention to reports and discussions.

A high spot in the Greensboro conference was the entry of Master Jonas Oettinger Rosenthal of Raleigh, three-months-old son of the president, Mrs. Emil Rosenthal, brought in by Mrs. Hattie Weinberg who proposed that the Assn. adopt him as its mascot, saying that the child was symbolic of the Men's Assn., also just born.

An agreeable evening was spent in Greensboro's handsome Temple Emanuel for the closing hours of the conference. A buffet supper was served in the Assembly room, after which an organ and voice recital was heard in the Temple proper. The executive committee met between the recital and the presentation of Barrie's "Half an Hour" by the Temple Players, who had taken part in the Winston-Salem convention.

SECOND DECADE
1931-1941

The 10th annual conference continued the cycle begun ten years before, and Wilmington followed Greensboro in entertaining the Assn. for a second time Apr. 12-14, 1931. The date was selected in anticipation of showing the delegates the Azaleas in bloom at "Airlie" the home of Mrs. Harry Walters, but cool weather made the spectacle impossible; a delightful drive to several beaches, Greenfield Park, and historic points compensated. 263 people registered in Wilmington.

A well-attended Men's meeting dealt first of all with a better organization of the N. C. Assn. of Jewish Men, and J. P. Shrago of Goldsboro was elected president, succeeding S. O. Lindeman. Subjects discussed dealt with needy Jewish transients (especially in Fayetteville, on a main highway from N. Y. to Florida); co-operation between large and small communities, men's and women's program of work, and an outsider's viewpoint as seen by Rabbi Gustave Falk, regional director of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations for the Southeastern division. Rabbi Falk, who had traveled far and wide, said:

"The N. C. Assn. of Jewish Women, to my knowledge, is the only organization in the entire country which rallies all Jewish elements and groups under a common banner. N. C. in fact is the only State which is so ideally organized, and the genuine religious spirit manifested among the Jewish people clearly demonstrates the tremendous worth and value of the organization."

Miss Henrietta Szold's Visit

Sunday night's banquet at the Cape Fear Hotel, which was convention headquarters, was featured with a talk on Palestine by Miss Henrietta Szold of Baltimore, founder of Hadassah, in honor of whose coming the Wilmington Hadassah Chapter increased its quota pledge by $500. This seventy-year-old 'prophetess of Israel' was heard with rapt attention by 300 men and women who gave her such an ovation as has seldom been witnessed. En route to Wilmington Miss Szold had been a guest in the home of Mrs. Henry Weil in Goldsboro; her father Rabbi Szold had performed the wedding ceremony when Mr. and Mrs. Weil were married.

At the Wilmington conference all food for banquet, luncheon, and breakfasts was prepared in accordance with Jewish dietary laws. 70 were present at the three separate breakfasts on Monday morning when local reports were heard, and 115 were at the luncheon which was presided over by Mrs. A. White of Charlotte, 1st vice-president. The business sessions were held at the Y. W. C. A., rooms near the Hotel and were presided over by Mrs. Emil Rosenthal, serving her second presidential term.

A Distinct contribution was the Census of 945 Jewish women over sixteen living in 72 towns that Mrs. Rosenthal had compiled; of this number nearly half were paid-up members of the Assn., 424 to be exact. Because of the success of her first census the other officers asked that the position of Director of the Census be created and Mrs. Rosenthal be given authority to keep the census up to date. The census for the following year 1932 showed 1209

women, an increase of 264, which meant not necessarily a growth but that the census was more nearly approaching a state of completeness. In 1932 Asheville, Charlotte, and Greensboro showed over 100 Jewish women; Durham, Goldsboro, Raleigh, Wilmington, and Winston-Salem had from 50 to 100 each; yet on the other hand there were 22 towns where only one Jewish woman lived, and 36 more where less than ten lived! Copies of the Census were placed in the hands of the Assn. officers, and were used as a mailing list for convention invitations. Only time would show the value of an accurate list such as Mrs. Rosenthal had arranged with the co-operation of the District chairmen and members from each locality who assumed responsibility for correcting the list from year to year.

Renewed Library Interest

Another step forward had been made by Mrs. Joseph who took over the Library in 1930. She had prepared catalogs of books on hand, sending a list to each community; a card index had been arranged, and additions of current books of Jewish interest were made monthly (Jewish Book-of-the-Month). The response had been beyond Mrs. Joseph's expectations and the Library seemed through her help to have taken a new lease on life. The Library had also purchased a set of Ceremonial Slides by Moritz Oppenheim, which were shown by Rabbi Freund and subsequently offered to communities desiring them.

A Budget committee headed by Mrs. Eli Epstein of Rocky Mount had worked out a budget based on an anticipated income of $400 annually. Traveling expenses were allowed the President to enable her to attend District meetings throughout the State, and each District chairman might secure funds to enlarge her work. A definite sum was allotted to each officer and chairman, and the Library had a fund with which to purchase new books as they were issued, these being books of Jewish interest or by Jewish authors. Speakers for conferences were included, as was also printing of stationery, programs, and Year Books, in which reports of Men's meetings now appeared. Money not needed was to remain in the treasury; if a surplus accumulated it was suggested that it be turned over to the Loan Fund as had been done with a surplus of $100 the previous year.

Successful Teachers' Institute

A report of the 10-day Teachers' Institute at Camp Osceola, the first of its kind to be held in the entire South, proved the need for just this sort of training. 44 teachers from 10 states attended; Rabbi Falk said that the expense to the sponsoring group, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, had been $700. Several towns had sent teachers as a school project, and a similar institute was planned for the next year; other sections of the country were undertaking similar plans and projects.

Legislative programs had been endorsed, since 1931 was a year in which the N. C. General Assembly met. Notices of Assn. conventions had been sent to 22 State papers by the Publicity chairman; this work has been a big factor in building up the Assn. and has been well handled by Mrs. Weinberg, Mrs. Freund, and Mrs. Honigman. Those who have had Assn. printing done have been Mrs. Stern, Mrs. Eli Oettinger and Mrs. White.

District reports indicated that each district was making a successful effort to hold two district meetings, in Spring and in Fall. Many of the districts were well-organized with local chairmen in each town.

The District chairman is the liaison officer of the Assn. and provides contact with each community. Too much cannot be said for these eight women who spend many hours writing letters or traveling wherever and whenever there is an opportunity to enlarge the work of the Assn. Many largely-attended district meetings and luncheons are held throughout the State, especially in the population centers; a district meeting now is as large as the first State convention.

Activities of the local groups present a cross-section of Jewish life, ranging all the way from B'nai B'rith's Inter-city picnics which draw many hundreds, to the lowliest rummage sale, with varying events between, such as Greensboro's Seder Supper for 150, Enfield's Community Succoth, Raleigh's parties for the college students, and Fayetteville's Strawberry Festival. An individual achievement that was reported with pride was that a member of the Assn., Mrs. Rose Schafer of Mt. Airy, had conducted a free soup kitchen in her home for undernourished school children, providing in all 770 meals, with the assistance of individuals and civic organizations as the scope of the work increased, thus pointing the way to school free lunches.

Fired by the fine reports of work done, Mrs. Adolph Oettinger of Goldsboro offered a prize of $25 to the district accomplishing most toward the betterment of Jewish community life. As the prize was a new undertaking, the terms were left indefinite, and a committee was appointed to make the award at the next conference. Mrs. Abram White of Charlotte was elected president to succeed Mrs. Rosenthal.

Loan Fund Trust Set Up

As a fitting climax to the 10th annual conference, at the Monday luncheon set apart for the Sophia Einstein Loan Fund, announcement was made that the three children of Mrs. Sol Weil: Mrs. A. Oettinger and Mr. Lionel Weil of Goldsboro and Mrs. Leon Strauss of Cleveland, Ohio, in their desire to perpetuate a cause dear to their Mother's heart, had set aside a Trust Fund of $13,500, the income from which assured a continuance of the $600 annual gift of their deceased Mother, begun in 1925-26. In order to serve as agent for this Trust it became necessary for the Assn. to incorporate. Mr. Emil Rosenthal had been helpful in drawing up papers regarding the Trust agreement. To the Assn.'s expressed object was added a fourth purpose: "To administer funds for religious, charitable, and educational purposes." The fervent thanks of the Assn. were tendered the donors of the Trust, the children of Mrs. Weil.

The children of Mrs. Weil had given her residence to the City of Goldsboro for use as a Public Library, thus perpetuating Mrs. Weil's early interest not only in the Assn. Library but as a pioneer in the Library movement throughout the entire State.

The Sophia Einstein Loan Fund had been in existence for only five years, but already it amounted to over $4,000 and had helped in all 13 students. A state-wide appeal made first in 1931 brought many donations from individuals and organizations, all of which were listed in the Year Book, Greensboro Council having contributed $100, the largest sum. Memorial gifts ranging from one to ten dollars became a steady source of additions.

Sophia Einstein Day

As Mrs. Einstein's birthday occurred on Feb. 14th, it was asked that this be designated as Loan Fund Day and that all money-raising center around the day as much as possible. The idea was accepted with enthusiasm and gifts made in February are received in time to be reported at convention in March or April.

The Loan Fund committee consisted of Mrs. J. W. Cone of Greensboro, chairman; Mrs. A. Oettinger and Miss Florence Mayerburg of Goldsboro, and Miss Etta Spier of Greensboro, sister of Mrs. Weinberg and teacher at Woman's College of the University of N. C. From a small beginning the Loan Fund had become the major objective of the Assn. As boys and girls completed their schooling and found work, their repayments might be used again to help others to get an education. With the appreciation of education long shared by all Jews, it is little wonder that this Loan Fund has found a responsive chord in the philanthropic N. C. Jews.

Raleigh Convention 1932

The N. C. Assn. of Jewish Women began the 2d decade of its existence under the presidency of Mrs. Abram White of Charlotte who had been elected at the Wilmington convention in April 1931. With national conditions growing steadily worse, since the stock market crash of 1929, no organization could hope for normal growth and expansion, but Mrs. White challenged the Assn. to move forward in spite of the "depression" when the 11th annual conference was held at the Sir Walter Hotel in Raleigh Apr. 3-4, 1932, with 155 women and 85 men present; 26 N. C. towns and 5 States were included.

Sunday was featured by a teachers' conference under the leadership of Mrs. A. F. Klein of Greensboro, formerly Miss Minnie Munich of Oxford, and discussions were led by Miss Etta Spier of Greensboro and Rabbi F. I. Rypins of Greensboro who had returned to N. C. after serving with a Roanoke congregation after he left Wilmington.

The N. C. Assn. of Jewish Men which had been formed in Greensboro had lain dormant except at convention times. Under the presidency of J. P. Shrago of Goldsboro the men at their Sunday afternoon meeting in Raleigh debated the motion that "the N. C. A. J. Men disband and cease to exist." After heated discussion the motion was voted down; the men cited the fine work of the Women's Assn. as proof that there was need for complete organization of all forces working for the best interests of Jews in N. C. Of the $176 in the treasury, $150 was given to the Sophia Einstein Student Loan Fund. S. O. Lindeman of Greensboro was elected president to succeed Mr. Shrago who said that "The child to which the Women's Assn. had given birth was proud of its mother and would yet make its mother proud of her child."

Inspirational Speakers

300 banqueters ate kosher chicken and heard Rabbi Morris Lazaron of the Madison Ave. Temple in Baltimore speak on "Surveying the Jewish Scene." From his boyhood in Georgia, to France as a chaplain with the A. E. F., and as a rabbi respected by Jew and Gentile alike, the speaker urged against false values, lowered standards, and mass thinking; he saw hope in the widespread interest of laymen in active Jewish life in North Carolina.

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Breakfast conferences were held for Council, Hadassah, and Sisterhood groups. An exhibit of Sunday school books and projects and Bicentennial material on George Washington was shown by Rabbi Iser L. Freund of Goldsboro, whose artistic talent and research into the field of visual education had made him an outstanding authority on the subject. 306 paid-up members were reported. A memorial tribute of silent prayer for departed members was held and was thereafter made a part of each annual conference. Henrietta Szold had returned the $75 check sent her for her talk in Wilmington but later accepted it for use in her work in Palestine.

Mrs. N. A. Edwards of Goldsboro who had served as recording secretary for several terms presented to the organization a complete History of the Assn. for the ten-year period from 1921 to 1931 and she received a rising vote of thanks for her gigantic task. Mrs. Edwards also presented a hand-made gavel with inlaid Star of David design and silver plate inscribed with the name of the Assn. thereon. Rabbi Freund had prepared a paper for the Jewish Encyclopedia on "The History of the Jews in N. C." which was read at the Raleigh meeting. Both papers were filed with the custodian, as was also a certificate of Incorporation, signed by Mrs. Emil Rosenthal, Mrs. M. Rosenthal, and Mrs. J. L. Emanuel, all of Raleigh; this was necessary in order to administer Trust Funds set up the previous year by the children of Mrs. Sol Weil in their wish to make permanent the Sophia Einstein Loan Fund she had created.

The Loan Fund had enjoyed a good year under Mrs. J. W. Cone's chairmanship; she retired after 6 years of service and was succeeded by Miss Etta Spier who after serving one year was replaced by Mrs. Emil Rosenthal in 1933 for a five-year period. Mrs. Cone and Miss Spier continued their active interest in this fund. The adoption of Feb. 14th as Mrs. Einstein's birthday resulted in contributions on that day of $250. Raleigh's party for the fund had as the price of admission "a penny a pound."

Renewed Library Interest

135 volumes in the Assn. Library had enjoyed good circulation under Mrs. A. A. Joseph's rejuvenation plan. A second summer institute for religious school teachers had been held at Camp Osceola near Hendersonville with 25 men and women from 7 states present. Mt. Airy won the Sunday school attendance prize with a record of 94.5 per cent attendance.

Healthy local activity and civic participation characterized all reports; Weldon had established a Hebrew Community Center, and Wilmington's four Jewish organizations operated under a jointly-raised $3,000 annual budget. Jewish folk songs proved popular whenever heard at gatherings. At future conventions, no local reports were to be heard because of the limited time; it was thought that the district meetings were the proper place for local reports, and that the director of each district could bring to the annual convention the highlights rather than the details.

District #1 received Mrs. Adolph Oettinger's $25 prize award for community activity because of the establishment in Hickory of a Sunday school to serve several mountain communities. It was decided to add the names of children and men to the Census when it underwent its next annual revision.

The 1931 Board meeting was the last one held in Raleigh, as it was agreed that Greensboro was more easily reached by eastern and western Board

members alike, and the 1932 meeting was held in Greensboro and each year thereafter, either at the Temple Emanuel, the King Cotton or O'Henry Hotels, or the Jefferson Roof Restaurant. The Board at its Fall meetings had power to act on motions adopted, and plans for the year's work were then made.

Depression Felt 1933

Mrs. White continued as president and (except for a drop in membership) reports showed activity to be undiminished in districts and communities when reports were given at the next convention held in Greensboro Apr. 23-24, 1933.

Originally scheduled to be held in March, the convention was postponed because of the 'banking holiday' enacted by President F. D. Roosevelt after his inauguration in March. The 5th District of B'nai B'rith was also scheduled to meet in Greensboro and the two were happily combined, recalling that such a combination had also taken place in 1922 when the newly-formed Assn. met in Greensboro for the first time. B'nai B'rith speakers relieved the Assn. of the expense of other orators; those heard with interest were District #5 President W. Goodhart of Baltimore, Richard E. Gutstadt of Cincinnati, B. B. Educational Director, and Henry Alexander of Atlanta.

In addition to the usual teachers' conference, a symposium had for its subject "How We Build Our Temples" with three viewpoints well presented: Home, Mrs. Rypins; Temple, Mrs. Max Miller of Raleigh; and Youth, Miss Laura Silbiger of Greensboro.

The Men's Association met and elected as its new president Benet Polikoff of Winston-Salem; a gift of $100 to the Loan Fund was gratefully received.

The $400 budget set up continued in force in spite of low membership because not all chairmen had drawn expense accounts earmarked for their work; these appropriations included $50 for the President's office and $10 for each District Director. Membership in the N. C. Federated Council of Civic, Social, and Religious Organizations was begun, continuing when this group became the N. C. Legislative Council.

16 students had received Loan Fund aid and repayments of earlier loans, although small, had begun. The Sunday nearest Feb. 14th, Mrs. Einstein's birthday, was set aside for asking contributions to the Loan Fund from Sunday school children of the State.

Census Nearing Completion

Mrs. Emil Rosenthal, in submitting her final report as Census Chairman before becoming Loan Fund Chairman, reported that 1,378 women and 539 children were now listed from 78 N. C. Towns; children appeared for the first time and were not yet complete. The most populous district was the Greensboro-High Point-Winston-Salem #3, but half of the Jewish population still lived in scattered communities, although the tendency to congregate in cities was becoming noticeable. A list of towns and Jewish population figures appeared in the Year Book of 1933-34 for the first time.

38 State newspapers and 3 national magazines had carried advance publicity concerning the convention, according to Mrs. N. A. Edwards, who stated that all papers had given excellent space and positions to material submitted.

District #1 of which Mrs. E. F. Winter of Hickory was chairman, again received the $25 achievement award offered by Mrs. Adolph Oettinger; in addition to the Sunday school begun the year before, Hickory had formed a social club which met once a month and drew young folks from 40 miles around, In District #3, Greensboro had been active through Mrs. Meyer Sternberger in transcribing books into Braille for the Jewish Blind; Mrs. Sternberger was later made a member of the State Blind Commission in recognition of her work in Greensboro and Guilford County where a workshop had been established through her efforts. District #8 had ~~had~~ held a meeting in Windsor where only one Jewish woman lived. Mrs. B. Goldstein, who was assisted by another lone resident Mrs. Frank Margolis of Williamston.

Rabbi Freund's exhibits became more elaborate each year with paintings, silhouettes, and soap carvings of Biblical and Talmudic subjects; he had been invited to display his exhibit at numerous gatherings in and outside N. C. Suggested outlines for reproducing the effects created were contained in three mimeographed booklets with diagrams, for the Festivals of Hanukah, Purim, and Passover, which the Assn. authorized to have bound for distribution to the Sunday schools of the State.

Nazis Persecute German Jews

Edward Cone, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cone, played original compositions on the piano at the luncheon meeting. The resolutions adopted contained an expression of concern for the Jews in Germany under the Nazi regime that had come to power under Hitler, and the support of all agencies to assist Jews in leaving Germany, or to better living conditions there was encouraged.

Mrs. White, who had been an able leader in a critical period, was succeeded in the presidency by Mrs. Meyer Sternberger of Greensboro who had been active in local and district work of the Assn. With Mrs. Sternberger's administration Jews of the State entered into an evaluation of the international situation, forcibly brought to their attention by the rise of Hitler. The lesson taught was that Jews needed unity above all things else.

At the Fall Board meeting in Greensboro in Oct. 1933 Mrs. Mary G. Schonberg, executive secretary of the Natnl. Council of Jewish Women, spoke on the chaotic conditions in Germany and so impressed her hearers that she was invited back to the State to make the main address at the banquet when the Assn. met in Durham at the Washington Duke Hotel Apr. 28-30 for its 13th conference. The third day in this instance was not a Tuesday business hangover as in former years but the extended pre-convention institute for teachers held Saturday night and Sunday morning, under Mrs. F. I. Rypins' direction, with 45 teachers and 6 rabbis present from 11 towns. Overnight hospitality was provided by the Durham hosts.

Durham Draws Huge Crowds

The Men's Assn. hit a high-water mark with their program worked out for the Sunday afternoon meeting when 850 men and women of all creeds gathered in the hotel ballroom for a symposium presented by three able leaders, a forerunner of many such good-will meetings held throughout the country:

"Why I Am A Jew" Rabbi Edw. L. Israel, Har Sinai, Balto.
"Why I Am A Catholic" Mr. Robt. Douglas, attorney, Greensboro
"Why I Am A Protestant" Rev. G. Ray Jordan, Centenary M. E. Winston-Salem

Rabbi Israel said that although the church has taught tolerance and brotherhood for 1900 years, the stricken world today is evidence of the failure to apply these precepts. While the Jew does not subscribe to the Divinity of Christ, he wants to see the Christian doctrine of brotherly love practiced by Christians. He gave 3 reasons why he was a Jew: the positive value of Judaism in preserving the lessons of thousands of years of history and tradition; the Jewish concept of religion as a strict evolutionary process with no creed or dogma, developing from a God of battle to one of brotherly love; and because the Jewish group spirit is not a narrow and sectarian one despite common belief.

Mr. Douglas said that Catholics regard their religion as an objective science and it is but natural that they should be intolerant of Protestantism which is subjective, just as a mathematician is intolerant of any but the right solution to a problem. In a union of church and state, the church usually suffers most. The Catholic Church today does not dictate its members' policies.

Religious Good-Will Urged

Rev. Jordan said that if the Jew and the Christian do not have sense enough to live together, they should at least have foresight enough to plan their religion together. He cited three reasons for being a Protestant: that his creed provided for separation of church and state, freedom of thought, and direct access to the Saviour Jesus Christ.

Business transacted at the Men's meeting fixed the annual dues at $1.00 (previously $2.00), sought to combat anti-Semitic activities in N. C., and divided the State into 8 Districts (same as Women's Assn.) and named directors therefor. Minutes of Men's meetings were to go into the Year Book. Mr. Polikoff was re-elected for a second term as president.

At the banquet cigarette-makers presented "Chesterfields" to all, and the solo heard was "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes." Mrs. Schonberg's address inspired the 300 men and women present to make pledges totalling $113 to bring to America German Jewish children orphaned because of political pressure; this was handled in an outside fund since the Assn. could not make a direct pledge, and was sent in memory of Mrs. Sol Weil, founder of the Assn.

For the women's meetings Mrs. Sternberger began the courteous custom of asking her vice-presidents to preside at breakfast and luncheon meetings; a pattern had developed whereby the 3 groups had separate and then later a joint breakfast, and the luncheon program was built around the report of the Loan Fund chairman.

Reading of detailed minutes was abolished; instead a committee examined and reported on the correctness thereof.

The question of a fiscal year was finally settled, to make dues payable by the calendar year instead of the convention year. With expanded activities, the budget with Mrs. White as chairman was advanced to $580; there were only 346 members reported, but there was a surplus from unused allotments of former years.

Loan Fund Policies

Loan Fund policies favored loans to upper-classmen only since a student's caliber was more certain after the two first years of college life; two years' debt also is lighter than four. New notes were drawn to legalize collection of old debts, and the maximum loan for a single student was fixed at $300 a year. The reading of names of borrowers at meetings drew controversy; it was pointed out that a loan was an honor instead of a disgrace, but the privacy of the list was gradually limited to the committee itself.

District #4 with Mrs. B. S. Aronson of Raleigh as chairman, received the year's award on the strength of work done for Jewish students at Peace, Meredith, and State Colleges, the latter conducting services at Temple Beth Or twice a year; Jewish books were donated to the colleges and the local rabbi visited student groups regularly. District #6 proudly reported the 50th anniversary celebration of the Jewish congregation in Goldsboro, with exercises at Oheb Sholom Temple.

Making its debut at the Durham meeting was the Assn. emblem or insignia as designed by Rabbi I. L. Freund, and it was ordered that this seal should henceforth appear on all printed matter, stationery, and invitations issued by the Assn. In the design are combined the 6-pointed Jewish star, a map of N. C., a condensed statement of the purpose of the Assn., and the hands of the Jewish woman lifted in blessing over a pair of lighted candles, the whole encircled with the name of the Assn. Rabbi Freund received the grateful thanks of the entire body for this further testimonial of his friendship for the Assn. From the beginning, all rabbis of the State were honorary members of both Men's and Women's Assn.s.

Jewish Students in N. C. Colleges

A new committee was appointed, headed by Mrs. E. J. Evans of Durham, to consider ways in which Jewish college students in N. C. might be helped to adjust themselves; serving with her were Mrs. Emil Rosenthal, Mrs. S. A. Nathan of Chapel Hill (also the new census chairman), and Rabbi F. W. Frank of Raleigh, all representing college communities. Back in 1930 Rabbi Gustave Falk of Cincinnati had deplored campus conditions, and believed that education for tolerance would require ten or fifteen years to show results.

Mrs. Sternberger had attended 8 district meetings, although some districts had met more than once during the year. She had traveled more than any previous president and had taken her vice-presidents along on her trips. She suggested a schedule of district meetings to avoid conflict, 4 in the east & 4 in west.

At the Fall Board meeting in 1934 Mrs. Sternberger, who had been re-elected for a second term, brought news of a talk made at a Hadassah conference in Washington by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, this being the first instance on record where a President's wife had so honored a Jewish group. Mrs. Lichtenfels told of the elevation to the status of Rabbi Emeritus of Rabbi Moses Jacobson of Asheville, at the age of 70, after many years of service. Miss Leah Heilig of Goldsboro had been unable to inject new life into the Assn. Library, and consideration was given to turning it over to one of the colleges in the State.

The 1935 meeting in Charlotte held May 5-6 at the Hotel Charlotte centered around one idea -- obtaining a Hillel worker for N. C., and the headline speaker was Dr. Abram L. Sachar of the Univ. of Illinois, Natnl. Hillel Director.

Hillel Foundations are resident centers for trained workers on college campuses where large numbers of Jewish students are present; they are sponsored and maintained by B'nai B'rith, international fraternal organization, and derive their name from the Talmudic scholar Hillel who first gave to the world the Golden Rule. The workers, many of whom are rabbis, look after the social, cultural, religious, and communal life of the students, smoothing out their problems, acting as ambassadors in dealing with other groups, and 'keeping the students in line' Jewishly.

Hillel Foundation for N. C. Sought

For more than a year a committee headed by Mrs. E. J. Evans of Durham had worked to explore the possibility of establishing a Hillel foundation at Chapel Hill, but had seen little immediate hope since each unit cost $4,000 a year to maintain, and the requests for new units far outnumbered B'nai B'rith's ability to open and support them.

There were in N. C. colleges and universities over 500 Jewish students; 300 of these were at Chapel Hill, 100 at Duke, and the balance at State, Wake Forest, and the Woman's College. As Mrs. Sternberger stated in her report, "Less than 100 are residents of N. C., the majority of non-residents coming from northern states. The northern Jewish student, not accustomed to the ways of the South, finds many difficulties in his path, and through misunderstanding, creates many more. It is our duty, therefore, to bring about a better understanding."

Mr. Sidney J. Stern of Greensboro, whose interest in the college situation had always been intense, was even then in Washington to present N. C.'s case before the International B. B. gathering. Following Dr. Sachar's informal talk to the N. C.A.J.M. on Sunday afternoon in Charlotte a committee from the Men's Assn. was named to work together with a similar committee of women, with Rabbi I. L. Freund as chairman, Mr. Stern, Rabbis Rypins of Greensboro, Williamovsky of Durham, Greenburg of Charlotte, Mr. Alvin Kartus of Asheville, and Mr. Moses Shapiro of Winston-Salem. If necessary, it was felt that N. C. Jews would support a worker until such time as B. B. could assume responsibility.

The Men's Assn. was responsible for arranging the Sunday luncheon as well as the p.m. meeting which were presided over by Mr. Benet Polikoff of Winston-Salem, who was succeeded as president by Mr. Arthur Goodman of Charlotte. Speakers heard were Dr. Jacob Billikopf of Philadelphia who told of a recent visit to Germany and made a plea on behalf of the Joint Distribution Committee for help in bringing children out of Germany; and Simon Levin of Baltimore, regional Zionist executive secretary, who said that Palestine was being prepared as a refuge for Jews. The Men's Assn. had not forbidden pleas for contributions as the Women's Assn. had found it necessary to do, and some of the most forceful speakers were sent at no expense to the Men by fund-raising agencies. A tribute of respect was paid to the memory of Mr. S. O. Lindeman of Greensboro, co-founder and first president of the Men's Assn. in 1930.

Dr. Abram Sachar Brilliant Speaker

Dr. Sachar's address "Crises in Jewish History" traced the thread of Judaism through the centuries, recalling time after time when Jews were persecuted, and concluding with, "If the loyalties of the past are to be maintained,

we will not be dominated by these people of the moment, but will live in our traditional program in answer to this new pogrom, realizing that they are merely people of the moment pitted against a people of the centuries." No speaker ever received a greater ovation. The most original place-cards yet conceived were used at the banquet; Mr. Maurice Honigman, Gastonia photographer, and Mrs. Honigman, loyal Assn. worker and vice-president, had made and presented to Board members and guests small tinted photographs of the Assn.'s mascot, 5-year-old Jonas Oettinger Rosenthal. Banquet soloist was Mrs. Helmud Holz of Tarboro, German refugee.

A teachers' institute under Mrs. Rypins' guidance started Saturday night and continued Sunday through luncheon; 49 teachers from 10 communities attended. At the Monday morning joint breakfast which replaced the three separate former groupings, all had an opportunity to learn of the work of the three great national women's organizations, making for greater unity in the Assn.

The Exhibit shown and explained by Rabbi Freund was on the Spanish philosopher Moses Maimonides whose 800th anniversary was being celebrated throughout the world; a larger exhibit was displayed at the Congressional Library in Washington and had been seen by many visitors from N. C. Another charming Washington discovery was Mrs. Morris Cafritz, president of the Temple Sisterhood there, who came to speak at the Monday luncheon of the N. C. A. J. W. on "The Path of Peace"; Alvin Kartus of Asheville also spoke on "Good Will and the Forces that Oppose It" telling of instances of animosity in our very midst.

The Prize Award went to District #8, Mrs. Joe Meyer of Enfield, chairman, for the Community Succoth arranged at her home and attended by every Jewish man, woman, and child living within 70 miles. Mrs. N. A. Edwards of Goldsboro was elected President.

Year Book Adds Features

Census tabulation showed the largest centers of population to be, in order: Asheville, Greensboro, Charlotte, Wilmington, Durham, Winston-Salem, Raleigh, Goldsboro, High Point, and Fayetteville. The Year Book issued after the Charlotte convention carried a map of N. C. divided into Districts, named (for the 1st time) as well as numbered:

1. Western
2. Lower Piedmont
3. Upper Piedmont
4. North Central
5. South Central
6. Eastern
7. Southeastern
8. Northeastern

Other Year Book innovations were a table of contents, a picture of Mrs. Edwards, the president, a list of members of the Men's Assn., and a memorial page to Mrs. Helen Weil Strauss of Cleveland, O., daughter of Mrs. Sol Weil and grand-daughter of Mrs. Sophia Einstein, "A worthy descendant of two noble Jewesses."

At the Fall Board meeting in Sept. 1935 (always timed not to conflict with the Holy Days) Mrs. Hattie Weinberg, state organizer, was made a life member; wives of rabbis (at their request) were not to be honorary members. Permission was given to hold dances at state conventions if sponsored by a local group. Vice-presidents were given two districts each to supervise and visit, geography being considered. Holding of chairmanship of a committee was

limited to 5 years without re-appointment, while elective offices carried a two-year term with possible re-election; district chairmen were elected at their own district meetings.

An Advisory committee was created to study ways in which the Assn. might become more vital to the life of the State, and subsequently reported that an even balance should be maintained between Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform groups, both in offices held and in speakers selected for meetings. Year Books were to be sent to members only, but invitations to district and state meetings were to go to all. From this time on all printing was done by the Piedmont Press of Greensboro, where cuts and insignia were kept.

Attendance Records Broken

The 1936 and 1937 conferences held in High Point and Winston-Salem while Mrs. Edwards was president drew the largest attendance in history; at the High Point banquet 650 were served in lobby, dining-room, and coffee shop of the Sheraton Hotel. These points were easy to reach and times were getting better.

With better business conditions, the time for carrying out one of the major projects of the two Assn's. seemed auspicious -- establishment of a Hillel Foundation at the University of N. C., centrally located and liberal in its acceptance of Jewish students. At a meeting held in Chapel Hill during the 1935 Commencement, plans were launched to ask the Jews of N. C. for $6,000 as a 2-year-guarantee operating fund. Jewish leaders stumped the State and pleaded the cause successfully; the 1936 Year Book was dedicated to those who had made the Foundation possible through their contributions.

Those who worked most actively for the Hillel Foundation were the members of the committees of both Assn.s, headed by Rabbi Freund, Mrs. Evans and later Miss Gertrude Weil and Mrs. J. W. Cone, sharing equally with Mr. Sidney Stern and the two Assn. presidents, Mrs. Edwards and Mr. Goodman, who together or separately had spoken to hundreds of people at meetings all over the State.

Detailed information was sent to all members of the Hillel Commission, and the regional member who befriended N. C. was Maurice Bisgyer, later to succeed Dr. Rubinow as Executive Secretary of B'nai B'brith. Hon. Alfred M. Cohen, B. B. President, and Mr. Abe Shefferman of Washington, #5 District president, gave their approval at a Tri-State B. B. Conference held in Charlotte in Nov. 1935. The Hillel Commission later accepted and the Executive Committee ratified North Carolina's offer to install the Foundation at its own expense until such time as B. B. could see its way clear to take it over. This decision was reached in Jan. 1936; in Feb. Dr. Sachar came to Chapel Hill, met the heads of the University, and was formally invited by Dr. Frank P. Graham and Dean R. B. House to establish a Foundation there, offering the Y. M. C. A. as office rooms, and Graham Memorial Bldg. for meeting purposes. Tentative plans for extension work at Duke were made also, and everything was in readiness for the opening of school in September. This news was the high spot of the High Point convention held March 21-23, 1936.

Convention Features

The advance school of instruction for teachers was held on Saturday and Sunday as before with Mrs. Rypins directing and 65 attending. A conference for rabbis and presidents of congregations (there were 18 of each) was held

preceding the Men's conference at which the Hillel report was given by Mr. Stern and Rabbi Freund. A memorial tribute to the late Dr. N. Rosenstein of Durham, beloved leader, was included. Luncheon speakers heard were sent by groups seeking aid for Polish Jews and Palestine, Hon. A. D. G. Cohn of New York, and Simon Levin of Baltimore; Miss Cecelia Razovsky, who had spoken in Goldsboro in 1929 explained the proposed alien and deportation legislation pending in Congress, and the Assn. went on record as opposing the passage of these acts sponsored by Sen.R. R. Reynolds and Congressmen Kerr and Coolidge. Rabbi Wm. Rosenblum spoke on the "Last Jew." The Men's Assn. pledged its support of J. D. C., U. P. A., and Polish Relief. The Women agreed to undertake a Citizenship Survey and to assist Jewish aliens.

Banquet speaker Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner of Euclid Ave. Temple, Cleveland, a close friend of Mrs. Sol Weil and her late daughter Mrs. Strauss, was introduced by Mrs. Weil's son Mr. Lionel Weil of Goldsboro. After paying tribute to Mrs. Weil and her family, he spoke on "Facing the World as Jews." With the present outlook dark, Rabbi Brickner declared that the Jew must reorganize his internal life. "Not fate but faith -- not despair but hope is necessary if Judaism is to be worthy of its great heritage." Biblical psalms were sung in native dress with lyre and cymbals by Jesse Phillips-Robertson, also "Kol Nidre." Charter members and past presidents were recognized.

Instead of giving a president's message, Mrs. Edwards stated that the 15-year History of the Assn. had been published in the magazine "American Jewish Times" recently launched in Greensboro under the editorship of Rabbi Rypins (later Rabbi Greenburg), and that a copy was being sent every Jewish family in the State. The 75th birthday of Henrietta Szold was also recognized in a fine paper prepared by Mrs. White and read at the meeting, being later published in the same magazine.

Loan Fund Growing

The Loan Fund luncheon over which Mrs. Honigman presided gave three aspects of this popular movement, resulting in a well-rounded presentation of its merits:

The Association . . Mrs. Emil Rosenthal, chmn.
The Student . . . . Mr. Norman Gold, Rocky Mount
The College . . . . Dean F. F. Bradshaw, U. N. C.

25 students had borrowed $9,675 in 10 years; annual income from all sources now amounted to $2,000, of which $600 was in repayments. Norman Gold and Dean Bradshaw had both been recipients of loan funds during their college days and they were full of praise for the Assn. fund that made higher education possible to many who otherwise would not have the opportunity to prepare themselves to be useful men and women.

Mrs. Gustav Lichtenfels presided over the first regular Memorial Service dedicated to departed members, with flowers, candles and Kaddish (Memorial prayer). The president's expense account was raised to $100 since traveling 3,474 miles attending meetings in all eight districts and writing nearly a thousand letters took money as well as time. The Library, problem child for many years, was given in its entirety to the Hillel Foundation, to be known as the Sarah Weil Memorial Library, to be supplemented with yearly donations of $25.00 for the purchase of new books.

Since the awarding of Mrs. Oettinger's annual $25 prize for achievement became more and more difficult on a comparative basis, it was changed

(with her consent) to a membership percentage basis, and Mrs. Sidney Levin of Charlotte, won for her #2 District the distinction of enrolling as Assn. members 56% of the Jewish women in her District. This was a big improvement over the 26.5% state average in 1935, but even this was exceeded the following year when Mrs. Sam Ward enrolled in District #6 the record figure of 68%, the biggest yet attained.

The Assn. Exhibit prepared by Rabbi Freund was a series of artistically-lettered panels depicting the growth of the N.C. A.J.W. from 1921-1936, showing on the map of N. C. all Jewish communities, and giving brief information about conferences, officers, speakers, district meetings, and projects such as loan fund, institute, census, publications, exhibits, prizes, and student activity. A picture of Mrs. Sol Weil, beautifully reproduced by Mr. Honigman, appeared on the first panel. These panels were collected in the form of a large book and placed in the hands of the custodian for future use; they were also reproduced, together with Mrs. Weil's picture, in the Year Book for 1936-37.

Hillel Foundation Opens

The 11th unit of Hillel was formally opened Oct. 9, 1936. Before that time the director, Rabbi Bernard Zeiger of Flint, Mich., had located in Chapel Hill and had lined up his work for the year. At the opening reception, 275 students were welcomed by President of the U. N. C. Frank P. Graham; officers of the Men's and Women's Assn.s attended.

Dr. Graham's talk to the group which met in Carolina Inn was a masterpiece. He had just come from the 300th anniversary of the founding of Harvard; he compared it with the record of Israel which stretched back not 300, but more than 3,000 years. He urged his hearers to hold fast to their cultural heritage, because without roots they would become the prey of the storms that beat about them. "The University" he said "is a mingling of many currents, and draws its strength from all. Each of these currents makes a definite contribution and must remain unharmed, if liberalism is to survive in America. . . This Foundation must be a part of, and not apart from, the University."

Mrs. Edwards and Mr. Goodman were still at the helm when the 16th annual conference was held in Winston-Salem Apr. 11-12, 1937 at the Robt. E. Lee Hotel, with an attendance of 467, 258 women and 209 men from 49 towns and 13 states. As usual, in the rush of a large crowd, not everyone registered, There was never any registration fee charged at any Assn. meeting.

Large Winston-Salem Convention

The Sunday luncheon featured two B'nai B'rith speakers, Mr. Abe Schewel of Lynchburg, Va., who asked for greater harmony within the Jewish family, and Mr. Edw. W. Kahn of Atlanta, who urged adoption of the chest or welfare federation idea in all communities; the plan was already in use in Asheville, Charlotte, Raleigh, and Goldsboro. A committee from both Assns. was appointed to stress the plan throughout the State, and a resolution endorsed the combining of the J. D. C. and U. P. A. campaigns. At the Men's meeting a memorial tribute was paid Jonas Oettinger of Wilson, community leader and philanthropist. On the roof, a huge crowd heard a convincing speaker Mr. Gerhart Seger, former member of the German Reichstag and newspaper editor, who had escaped to America from a concentration camp; he begged his hearers to prize their freedom and to let nothing take it away. Rabbi Wm. Schwartz of Long Island spoke for Polish Relief.

600 banqueters heard Salem College musicians in a varied program, and listened enthralled while Rabbi James G. Heller of the Isaac M. Wise Temple, Cincinnati, O., spoke on "The Jew and The World Crisis." The picture he painted was indeed dark, and he looked with alarm on the events then shaping the world, but felt that no miracle to save the world was at hand. Said he, "The cause of the Jews is the cause of all oppressed people. As long as there are people who are oppressed and are victims of the present systems and rule of force, the Jew will have to bear the brunt of the persecution."

Sunday was a full day indeed, running over into Monday morning, for the midnight dance custom begun in High Point was continued in Winston-Salem.

Monday Sessions Inspiring

The joint breakfast started off the day Monday, and at the morning business session of the Women's Assn., Norman Block of Greensboro gave a talk on U. S. Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis, outstanding American Jew who was 80 years old at that time; his record of service to his country and his community was an inspiring example. A hand-written letter signed by Justice Brandeis was presented to Mr. Block by Mrs. Edwards.

Rabbi Freund was given a brief rest for two years while Rabbi A. H. Kline of Asheville acted as Exhibit chairman. Rabbi Kline collected for the convention several hundred Ceremonial objects from individuals and Temples throughout the State, some of them priceless art objects, so valuable that a night watchman was stationed over them. Many years before, Mrs. H. L. Cohen of Raleigh had arranged a similar exhibit on a more modest scale. The significance of the articles was explained by Rabbi Kline, who was applauded for his effort and achievement; the exhibit was declared by those who saw it to be the finest ever assembled in the South. The following year Rabbi Kline had a photographic exhibit of Oriental Architecture with particular attention to synagogues.

Monday's luncheon, instead of being the usual Loan Fund rally, was devoted to Hillel, and the speakers were I. H. Jacobson of Winston-Salem, U. N. C. student, and Rabbi Bernard Zeiger, first Hillel Director, who explained in detail the beginning steps in establishing the Foundation at Chapel Hill, promoting friendly relations with students, and trying to convince them that their Jewish heritage should be a merit of pride. A regular schedule of religious services for both Orthodox and Reform groups, Hebrew classes, and social affairs had been put into effect. The high spot of the early months was a Seder Supper attended by 150 students, with Dr. Graham, Dean Bradshaw, and other faculty members present, who were greatly impressed with the services.

Membership Grows

From 333 to 745 members was the record for the two years from 1935-37, safely past the depression period; 70 of these members resulted from post-card requests sent to all non-members as checked with the Census. What a wonderful thing that Census was! Mrs. J. L. Emanuel of Raleigh added names of men to those of women and children, and listed 4,653 Jewish individuals in 109 N. C. localities, with the Greensboro, High Point, Winston-Salem district still the most populous (1/5 of entire State). The Census was carefully guarded and was not allowed to be used for commercial or solicitation purposes.

Mrs. Emanuel worked from nine till five each day for two months to type the lengthy list and to make cards for names not heretofore included. To add to her task, she was given the envelopes for mailing convention invitations to address, 1,700 of them. The practice of enclosing a full program with each invitation created interest and boosted convention attendance. Naturally this large expenditure for printing, postage, and expense of bringing well-known speakers to the State kept the budget climbing, but the Men's Assn. gave $50 (later $75) to assist the $745 set up by the Women, since the men derived benefit from printing, program, and institutes.

Men Attend District Meetings

District meetings throughout the State were for the first time held on Sunday afternoons and with the addition of the men, attendance mounted to new high marks, 251 being counted in Asheville in 1937, and 300 in Charlotte and 275 in Winston-Salem in 1938. These were fine opportunities to tell of Hillel and other Assn. projects. Mrs. Edwards attended every meeting held in the State and she was accompanied by Mr. Goodman. Men's Assn. president to many of the district gatherings. The duties of district chairmen multiplied as new projects required their co-operation, but they promptly did all that was asked or expected of them, such as revising census, citizenship survey, local organization data, memorial names, and collection of dues or Loan Fund contributions. They should be named individually and praised for their fine work.

The Citizenship survey undertaken in 115 towns as a result of anti-alien agitation proved to be a stimulant to some Jews who through ignorance or negligence had failed to take out their first or second naturalization papers. Since N. C. had one of the smallest percentages of alien population in the U.S., Senator Reynolds could push deportation legislation without risking many votes; the figure in the 1930 census was 3/10 of 1%. The survey showed that only 3% of N. C. Jews were still aliens; of the other 97% 2/3 were native-born and 1/3 naturalized citizens. With the assistance of the Natnl. Council of Jewish Women through Miss Razovsky, and B'nai B'rith through Mr. Sidney Kusworm, a system of help was worked out, and a list of Federal Courts in N. C. listed.

Citizenship Aid Given

The work of naturalizing Jewish aliens was undertaken in earnest, and even those born in America were urged to supply themselves with birth certificates if they had none. Jewish lawyers offered free help to aliens who needed aid in filling out the application forms for naturalization (first and second papers). The work done in N. C. was highly commended at Dist. #5 meeting of B'nai B'rith in Charleston. All citizenship information was held strictly confidential. Mrs. Edwards continued in charge of this work she had initiated for 5 years; at her suggestion the Citizenship work was discontinued in 1941 when as an emergency measure preceding America's entry into the war, all aliens were required to register at their local Post Offices.

A division of the Census bureau in Washington asked for a list of all local religious organized groups; the list when completed made an excellent showing.

The Assn. came to the attention of groups inside and outside of N. C., and requests for articles and information henceforth became another obligation on the president. A write-up appeared in the B'nai B'rith monthly magazine, and Mrs. Edwards' picture appeared in "The American Hebrew" magazine when she

was listed among "Who's Who in American Jewry" for the year; Nell Battle Lewis in her News & Observer column "Incidentally" named Mrs. Edwards as one of the ten outstanding women in N. C. for the Year. Invitations to serve on regional boards of national organizations were tendered; these honors were repeated with successive presidents in office. The Greensboro magazine "American Jewish Times" always published a special issue ahead of the convention, devoting much space to the past and present doings of the Assn.; articles from Assn. leaders were constantly sought, one of the best being an article on "Jewish Music" by Mrs. Honigman who became president following Mrs. Edwards.

Mrs. Honigman Becomes President

Mrs. Maurice Honigman of Gastonia had been in continuous service in the Assn. in many capacities for more than a decade and she brought knowledge and ability that proved of great value to the Assn. In addition to attending all district meetings and state conferences of a related nature, Mrs. Honigman found it advantageous to attend at her own expense national and regional conventions outside the State, where foremost thinkers were training future Jewish leaders. In a single year she attended 29 gatherings and traveled over 5,000 miles; among the meetings attended were the Good-Will Institute at Chapel Hill, and conferences in various cities to formulate policies in regard to absorbing European refugees, a problem now becoming tremendous because of the congestion in the metropolitan centers. For the first time a husband, Mr. Honigman, was thanked for permitting his wife to give so much of her time to the Assn.

The Asheville convention held at the Geo. Vanderbilt Hotel May 1-2, 1938, brought a notable group of speakers. Mr. Arthur Goodman, who was later re-elected, presided over the Men's luncheon and afternoon meetings when Marvin Lowenthal, noted author, spoke on "The Jew in the European Cauldron" bringing first-hand information. Later Congressman Sol Bloom of New York read a paper on the U. S. Constitution in Commemoration of its 150th anniversary (ratification). Rabbi Zeiger reported that everything was moving satisfactorily at Chapel Hill, cautioning that the Hillel program was a long-range one and that results must not be expected too soon. Prayer books and current works had been bought with the money given by the Women's Assn., and book plates designed by Rabbi Freund had been placed in the Sarah Weil collection of books, formerly the Assn.'s traveling Library, now at Hillel.

The banquet speaker in Asheville, Rabbi Abraham Feldman of Hartford, Conn., was introduced by a former confirmation pupil, wife of the Asheville rabbi. This pleasing speaker, also noted for his radio addresses, was heard with rapt attention by 400 people on the subject "The American Jew, Who is He?" He traced the migration of the Jew to America, showing how the Spanish Jews brought their spiritual contributions; the Germans, a liberal spirit and cultural background; the Russians, warmth, joy, and song, and the beginning of Jewish Nationalism and literature. Thus the American Jew with this wealth of material "is the Jew in America who takes his place in the American community and occupies it with dignity and self-respect, living honorably, respectfully, and as an American citizen."

Exhibits for Breakfast

Instead of a breakfast devoted to the work of the three national women's organization (Council, Hadassah, Sisterhood) as formerly, these greetings were given at the Monday morning business session, and the Monday breakfast was held in the room where Rabbi Kline had placed his Exhibit of Oriental

and Synagogue Architecture. Rabbi Kline had been commissioned to write a book on this subject and had traveled abroad extensively gathering first-hand information and photographs, many of which he had taken himself. Beginning with the Temple of Solomon, the pictures showed the desires of Jews throughout the world to honor their ancient faith by building edifices of enduring beauty and simplicity; also shown were caves where worship also went on in times of persecution. The explanations of the pictures added immeasurably to their value, and Rabbi Kline's second exhibit received much praise.

The Loan Fund luncheon featured a skit written by the chairman Mrs. Rosenthal "Carolina Goes To College" and portrayed the committee in actual meeting trying to decide fairly to whom to allot money for student loans. Slight changes in the Loan Fund set-up were announced, to give rotation to the five members of the committee (Mrs. A. Oettinger and the president were ex-officio members), who might serve for five years as did the chairman; a deadline of July 1st was set for filing applications for loans, and Mrs. Herbert Bluethenthal was named chairman to succeed Mrs. Rosenthal who completed her five years since 1933.

The 1938 prize award went to Mrs. Harry Schwartz of Charlotte for District #2's fine record of membership, 65.2%. The year closed with 820 members and the president's allowance was increased to $150 since it had been clearly demonstrated that visits to districts had greatly increased membership. The committee on revising the Constitution and By-laws found that the only changes necessary to bring the paper up-to-date were omitting the clause relative to a field worker, and adding the Loan Fund committee as a standing committee. Mrs. Irving Margolis, new Census chairman, listed 4,732 names.

Biennial Teachers' Institutes

The plan of holding Religious School Institutes every other year with more ambitious programs was being tried by Mrs. Rypins, and an institute had been held in Greensboro at Temple Emanuel Oct. 9-10, 1938, with Dr. Abraham Franzblau of the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati as the guest instructor. The attendance was gratifying and it was felt that a serious school of this type was better than a crowded convention session or two. The teachers stayed in private homes. The biennial plan was adopted for the future.

There was no dance in Asheville but the Hotel gave a reception following the banquet; this proved to be a good plan even with midnight dances, since the reception gave people who had been talked to all day a chance to talk to each other. As a matter of future policy it was decided that dance proceeds should be divided equally between the Assn. and the sponsoring group. No trip to Asheville could be called complete without an outdoor glimpse and this was provided by a drive up Sunset Mountain in the afternoon. A Monday night dinner and bridge party provided diversion for those who lived too far to start home Monday p.m.

Mrs. Honigman and Mr. Goodman served another term together and Mrs. Honigman had the satisfaction of seeing the membership rise to an all-time high of 885, well on the way to the 1,000-mark which had been the ideal of several administrations. The Men's Assn. had only 127 members, most of whom had paid dues while attending conventions.

Back to its Birthplace

Thus the N. C. A. J. W. was shown to be in super-healthy condition when it met in Goldsboro April 16-17, 1939, with the children of Mrs. Sol Weil, Mrs. A. Oettinger and Mr. Lionel Weil, acting as convention host and hostess. A Founder's Day luncheon and silver-covered souvenir banquet programs with Mrs. Weil's picture were reminders of the years that lay behind, and the attendance of 381 proved the interest of the present-day generation of N. C. Jews.

The Sunday luncheon speaker was Miss Tony Sender, former member of the German Reichstag, who told of conditions of distress and persecution almost unbelievable. Her subject was "I was Caught in the Maelstrom" and she autographed copies of her book of the same name offered for sale. An afternoon Men's meeting at the Paramount Theatre (no Sunday movies then) elected Alvin Kartus president to succeed Mr. Goodman. Mr. Kartus, Asheville attorney, had been active in anti-defamation work for B'nai B'rith. Memorial services were held, and sound movies were seen: "The Dream of My People" and "Refugees Today and Tomorrow", dealing with conditions in Europe and in Palestine. The dance was not held until Monday night because of the possibility of disturbing Hotel residents by too-late hours.

Tribute to Founder

As banquet speaker Rabbi Hyman Schachtel of New York took the place of Rabbi Sidney Tedesche who was kept in Brooklyn by a funeral. Rabbi Schachtel's subject was "My Reasons for Hope"--"Faith in human nature, faith in the future, because the World recognizes anti-Semitism as anti-civilization, and because of our Jewish experiences." In closing Rabbi Schachtel brilliantly paraphrased Lincoln's Gettysburg address to recall Mrs. Weil's ambitions in Goldsboro, where her dream became a reality. Said he: "We have come to pay honor to her and to all those who did their best that Judaism might live.....It is for us, the living, to dedicate ourselves to the unfinished work they so nobly advanced.... that this organization of Jewish men and women of N. C. under God shall grow from strength to strength and our synagogues in this blessed democracy, America, conceived of, by, and for Judaism which means to love God, and to love our fellowmen, shall not perish from the earth."

The breakfast on Monday morning was again made the occasion for an explanation of the Exhibit, this being a presentation of material on The Jewish Prayer Book arranged by Rabbi Freund. Many rare volumes of early date were on display, and charts showed the development of Jewish prayers in permanent form. The talk given to describe this development was published in the Year Book. Rabbi Freund was invited to take the display to district meetings. As he was soon to leave the State to accept a pulpit in California, this was the last exhibit arranged by Rabbi Freund, whose record will long stand, and whose service to the Assn. is perpetuated in the emblem which he designed and is now in active use. Mrs. Freund was also a great worker in the Assn. as well as a musician whose singing was much sought after.

Founder's Day Luncheon

The Founder's Day luncheon was presided over by Mrs. Sam Tobias of High Point, vice-president, and was opened with an invocation by Mrs. D. Lebovitz of Gastonia, mother of Mrs. Honigman, whose satisfaction in the record of service made by her accomplished daughter was beautiful to see. Mrs. Hattie

Weinberg, state organizer when the Assn. was in its infancy, reminisced on "The Assn.'s Beginnings and Ideals." Mrs. Lionel Weil, wife of the son of Mrs. Sol Weil, spoke on "The Assn. in Retrospect" and asked all past presidents and charter members to stand for recognition; regret was expressed at the absence because of illness of Mrs. Henry Weil, mother of Leslie, Herman, Gertrude, and Janet (Mrs. Bluethenthal) all loyal Assn. workers.

In honor of their mother Mrs. Adolph Oettinger, Mrs. Mark Eisner and Miss Dorette Oettinger of New York City tendered to the Assn. a gift of $100 to be repeated annually to be used in some constructive work of the Assn. Details worked out later indicated the need of this fund in promoting Religious School Institutes as training for the young people of the State, and it was thus designated the Edna Weil Oettinger Fund for Adult Education; the generous offer was received with enthusiasm.

Memorial serivce included the names of Rabbi Milton Ellis formerly of Greensboro, and Miss Etta Spier beloved teacher at the Woman's College and sister of Mrs. Weinberg. An Etta Spier Scholarship Fund was created to be handled by the Loan Fund committee, to which gifts of money might go to be used as outright gifts to worthy students. The Sophia Einstein Loan Fund had added a treasurer Mrs. Harriss Newman of Wilmington to assist Mrs. Bluethenthal in the financial administration of the Fund which by now had mounted to $14,625 and had assisted 36 students in 13 years. The Legislative committee had been active before each legislative year, studying proposed legislation with other State organizations, as a member of the N. C. Legislative Council.

Mrs. Lichtenfels New President

Mrs. Gustav Lichtenfels of Asheville, who had been the bulwark of the Assn. in Western N. C. ever since its inception, was elected president to succeed Mrs. Honigman who was subsequently named as Hillel chairman. Mrs. Honigman almost immediately went into the presidency of the N. C. Federation of Music Clubs, a position that she filled as creditably as she did the presidency of the N. C. A. J. W. Mrs. Lichtenfels presided at the 19th annual conference held in Raleigh Apr. 7-8, 1940, attendance 433.

With Men's and Women's organizations functioning well, it was but natural that the attention of the Assn. should turn to the Youth of the State, and at the Goldsboro convention Mrs. Max Zager of Greensboro had been asked to investigate the possibilities of a Youth Association. A call was sent out to key people in all N. C. communities, and on Sunday afternoon 137 boys and girls in their teens met to discuss with Mrs. Zager the future of such plans. It was agreed that no other program was necessary other than to come together once a year, and Edw. Kantrowitz of Hendersonville was elected first president of the N. C. Assn. of Jewish Youth.

The Men's Assn. offered as a luncheon speaker Mr. Manfred Arie, former Supreme Court Justice in Austria, who made his audience grateful that they lived in a free country. The new Men's president elected was Mr. Ben Herman of High Point. The chief discussion of the afternoon was the need for larger quarters at Chapel Hill for the Hillel Foundation, and a resolution was passed that the Men's and the Women's Assn.'s join in erecting at Chapel Hill a combined synagogue and meeting place for the students, with perhaps a Library in the basement. Mr. Sidney Stern and Mrs. Honigman were put in charge of this work. A change in Hillel directors had been made; Rabbi Zeiger had been succeeded by Rabbi Samuel Sandmel, formerly assistant rabbi in Atlanta; both directors married girls they met in N. C.

The synagogue idea proved popular, but as national stress grew, the leaders of the movement realized that the time was not proper for expansion, and arrangements were accordingly made to have Rabbi and Mrs. Sandmel move into a house large enough for their dwelling and for student gatherings as well, at 503 E. Rosemary St. in Chapel Hill. Both Men's and Women's Assn.s gave money with which to buy furnishings for the assembly room; B'nai B'rith pays rent, upkeep, and director's salary.

Distinguished Speakers

At a brilliant banquet attended by 325, the speakers for the first time were non-Jewish; Gov. Clyde R. Hoey praised the quality of Jewish leadership and civic consciousness and pledged that N. C. would never tolerate intolerance. Dr. Frank Kingdon, Methodist minister and president of Newark College, N. J., spoke on "Freedom for a World at War," and asked the question, "Shall the World be handed over to men with a philosophy of power and the sword, or to upright men of truth?" He considered it America's duty to maintain freedom throughout the world as a practical fact. Rabbi Rypins, program chairman, introduced him. The Banquet program was broadcast by WPTF radio.

An exhibit secured by Rabbi Avery Grossfield was a personal showing by the artist himself of etchings by Saul Raskin, whose Jewish types and Biblical themes carried out his belief that an artist should live for his own people. The human quality of Mr. Raskin's work was admired by many individuals who bought copies of his etchings; the Assn. purchased two collected sets in book form to send around to District meetings, but later gave them to the Hillel Library at Chapel Hill. Mr. Raskin had space on the program to explain his philosophy of art.

Monday's Youth luncheon was a report by Mrs. Zager of the Sunday Youth Assn. gathering. Mrs. A. J. Tannenbaum of Greensboro and Mr. Julian Harris of Fayetteville, both young adults, told of Jewish youth conditions and aspirations in America and in Palestine. 95 attended the luncheon at the Sir Walter.

Refugees Come to N.C.

The refugee resettlement problem came up for frequent attention and many communities were helping in fine ways, notably Wilmington with a farm colony. At Chapel Hill, the students took as a Hillel project for the year the support of several refugee students. Liberal contributions were made by various communities to agencies dealing with the refugee problem; a Wilmington card club had raised $238.40 in nickels and dimes.

A new plan proposed by Mrs. Lichtenfels was the placement in N. C. college libraries of Jewish books and journals. A survey made by Rabbi Robt. P. Jacobs of Asheville showed that 32 colleges had an enrollment of 22,000 students but only 131 Jewish books. $100 annually was appropriated for this work and Rabbi Jacobs was thanked for his fine work. Key schools were chosen, principally teacher training schools. Mrs. Lichtenfels during her presidency also urged that every Jewish family subscribe to Jewish magazines, but it was decided that the membership list of the Assn. should not be used as a solicitation list for subscriptions.

As for the business of the Assn., the budget continued to climb and reached a total of $997.50 apart from the Men's $75 and the Oettinger gift of $100 annually. Prize winners were: 1939 Mrs. Jos. Dave of Asheville, 69% an all-time high record of membership in any district, 1940 Mrs. Nathan sutker of Charlotte, and 1941 Mrs. Fred Pearlman of Asheville with 59% for Dist. #1 again. To the treasurer fell the task of figuring percentages for the prize award, as well as keeping up with staggering memberships, and mailing out post card receipts to each member. Additional opportunity to pay dues was always given at convention time. To the Loan Fund and the Etta Spier Fund was added a third or Revolving Fund which the committee might use as it saw fit; donors were asked to specify the fund of their choice when making gifts; repayments were always returned to the principal of the Trust Fund itself.

Mrs. Lichtenfels, on a Spring tour of the State in May 1940, was accompanied by Mrs. Morris Cafritz of Washington, D. C. who based her talks on Robert Sherwood's war-time play "There Shall Be No Night."

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Mrs. Meyer Sternberger, in her Presidential address at the Charlotte convention in May 1935, closed with these words:

"May I leave this thought with you: We have joined together in this work for the advancement and development of the Jews in N. C. Our work in the past has demonstrated the need for such an organization; and we all look forward to continued interest in our work. I am sure that as the years go by we shall have increasing evidence of the need and effectiveness of our organization. The keynote of every National Jewish Convention held recently has been the great <u>need of unity.</u>

"To quote Mr. Hugo Levy of Brooklyn, "The lesson of Germany and its Jews cannot be overemphasized. Many German Jews attempted to stray away from the folds of Jewry and adopted a materialistic philosophy based on assimilation. This contributed in no small measure to their present plight, leaving many of them suspended in the air without the anchorage of a common religious faith. If Jewry is to survive, it must be through the medium of more Judaism, rather than less. Our men and women must meet the slanders and libels of Anti-Semites by living traditionally decent Jewish lives. The idea that Jews are 'chosen people' must be refuted. We must talk less about the loss of rights-and privileges and more about our responsibilities. God is much too busy with the whole big plan to single out a single group. If Jews were, in fact, the chosen people, they were chosen for only one thing - to serve."

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(Second decade 1931-41 added to original History by Emma R. Edwards, the whole presented at the 1942 Greensboro conference.)

THIRD DECADE
1941-1951

Mrs. Lichtenfels and Mr. Herman presided over the 20th annual conference held in Durham Apr. 6-7, 1941 at the Washington Duke Hotel with 491 registered delegates. The convention was originally scheduled for Wilmington, but crowded conditions there due to the building of nearby camps and shipyards made it impossible to secure the 50-60 rooms ordinarily needed for those who spent a night in a convention city. Durham handled the meeting in a remarkably smooth manner on two weeks' notice.

The Sunday luncheon took the form of a panel discussion on the question "Why Should We Jews Survive?" participated in by Rabbis Wm. Greenburg of Charlotte, Jos. I. Weiss of Goldsboro, S. Sandmel of Chapel Hill, and I. Moshowitz of Durham, who took the view "Why Should We Jews Not Survive?" Mr. E. J. Evans, Durham leader, was chosen president of the Men's Assn.

The Youth Assn. at its second meeting elected a Durham president also, Albert Rose, U. N. C. student. The young folks had some interesting discussions seeking for a program, and took up the problem of caring for the recreation of Jewish men in the service in nearby camps. They had a good time also at the dance.

The banquet speaker, outstanding in a list of brilliant speakers, was Dr. Max Lerner, professor of Political Science at Williams College, Williamstown, Mass. His title taken from the sun dial inscription was "It Is Later Than You Think." Said he: "Americans must have a clear-cut idea of the kind of democracy they want to defend before all the people of the nation will be able and willing to bend their full effort toward national defense....The only way we can defend and stimulate democracy is to use it." Dr. Lerner praised the defense of the British homeland. (The United States did not enter World War II until Dec. 7, 1941).

Mrs. Lichtenfels urged the women to take all possible part in civic affairs and defense activities, thus fulfilling their destiny as good citizens. This theme she had stressed at all eight District meetings. She had set a notable example of civic participation in her home community of Asheville, being a bulwark in western N. C. She and her husband assumed responsibility for bringing a large number of German refugees to the U. S.

The three directors-at-large with no specific tasks were abolished. The publication of Mrs. Edwards 20-year History of the Assn. was authorized, to be sold at the next convention. Mrs. Max Zager of Greensboro, who had made possible the development of the Youth Assn., was elected president to succeed Mrs. Lichtenfels.

The Monday luncheon was a "March of Time" skit arranged by Mrs. Rypins, consisting of highlights from the Assn. history quickly read by various persons. On a note struck in Mrs. Rypins' comments, it is well to bring to a close this chronicle: "Students in Elon College made a study of the Jew in two Southern communities. They, after a careful survey, conclude that the position of the Jew is satisfactory both to himself and to his non-Jewish neighbor. The Jew and his family feel at home, free to carry on their businesses in harmony with

other business men, free to make social contacts in which they are interested, free to go into politics or to leave it alone, free to attend church and Temple, free to go to college or school."

Conditions No Longer Normal

With Mrs. Max Zager of Greensboro and Mr. E. J. Evans of Durham (elected at the Durham conference in 1941) as leaders of the two Associations, the war-time story began in earnest. With Europe already embroiled, America began feeling the pinch of shortages of rubber, gasoline, and metals, and rationing of these items had already begun before the Japs attacked Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941.

America's stepped-up defense program brought into existence many Southern camps because of year-around mild climate. Besides Ft. Bragg and Camp Lejeune, quickly-built facilities at Cherry Point, Camp Davis, Goldsboro, Butner, Greensboro, Charlotte, Maxton, and Laurinburg soon sheltered thousands of American boys being intensively trained for overseas duty. Raleigh was a favorite spot for those with 24-hour passes, and towns near camps were overtaxed.

U. S. O. hospitality centers were set up in every strategic city, and the Jewish Welfare Board sent workers to add to their staffs. The boys wanted girls, food, and home hospitality (in that order), but there were never enough girls to go around. Jews volunteered or were drafted, and represented a cross-section of camp life everywhere. At Seymour Johnson Air Field in Goldsboro, a large majority of the technical instructors were Jewish, in many instances being unemployed or substitute teachers from the metropolitan areas. Instead of college campuses being deserted, officer training groups were brought into N.C.

Rabbis Become Chaplains

As chaplains left for the front, many communities were without rabbis, and laymen conducted services in a creditable manner; older rabbis served neighboring camps as chaplains. Construction and transportation were hard hit. Hotels could not take care of convention crowds, and gasoline was limited to 3 or 4 gallons a week per car. District meetings were seldom held any more.

The women, upon whom the Assn. depended, were up to their ears in Red Cross, Hospital Aid, Civil Defense, U. S. O., and War Bond work. They no longer had domestic help in their homes. Business-wise they were perpetual energy machines. Home hospitality for men in service, holiday observances, weddings, dances, brunch and supper snacks with hard-to-get items were largely dependent upon the men and women of the community, even though professional workers might be present.

The activity of the N. C. A. J. W. was likewise reduced. The Loan Fund continued by correspondence and an occasional committee meeting, with 43 students having been helped thus far. The Library Book placement plan continued, 56 books having been purchased, but this merely scratched the surface, as only the larger liberal institutions had even a dozen books on Jewish subjects; the Extension Library at U. N. C. was always considered a good choice. The Hillel library gifts continued.

High Point launched its annual Debutante Ball in March of 1942, with two dozen young girls receiving spotlight attention; they and their escorts

came from all other the state. This social fling was interrupted by the war, but was resumed afterwards.

1942 Convention in Greensboro

Since the inland cities were the only ones that were not engulfed in the defense maelstrom, the 1942 convention chose Greensboro as (what proved to be) its last full-fledged two-day gathering, Sunday and Monday Apr. 19-20, at the Hotel King Cotton. A Religious School Institute was held in connection therewith, being financed by Mrs. A. Oettinger's gift of $100, offered now instead of the prize award previously given by the daughter of the founder.

At the Sunday luncheon Rabbi Isidore Breslau of Washington, D. C. spoke on "Jews in the Post-War Period." Entertainment was given by girls from the Woman's College, U. N. C. The last regular Memorial services were held; as subsequent conventions were limited to one day, many items were cut from the program. $200 was given to buy chairs for the Hillel House at Chapel Hill. A list of Jewish men in the armed services was read at the Men's meeting. Refugee students were being aided through N. Y. A. scholarships for industrial training. European displaced rabbis sought help frequently. College faculties and state institutions employed many brilliant European professionals.

Youth Group on Program

The recently-formed Youth group had its own plans; in the afternoon, Albert Rose of Durham presided over an enthusiastic session. They heard Mr. Harry Comer, Y. M. C. A. Director at U. N. C., talk on "Teen-Age Youth and the Present Crisis", followed by an open forum and a tea. Not for four more years were they to have an opportunity to meet again as a state organization.

Rabbi Norman Gerstenfeld of Washington, D. C., was the banquet speaker on "America's Spiritual Offensive." A dance, sponsored by the Council-Sisterhood, began at midnight. The Women's Monday program featured a patriotic luncheon arranged by High Pointers. Mrs. Zager gave a tea at her lovely home on Greenway. Rabbi Sandmel's Hillel students had an exhibit entitled "First Jews Settling In N. C." 300 people registered.

Mrs. N. A. Edwards' 20-year History of the Assn. had been completed and placed on sale. Copies sent to libraries had received praise, and the historian was thanked for her efforts. Mrs. Zager in her President's message made a plea that the Assn. not be allowed to fall apart in the war emergency. She had written to Gov. J. Melville Broughton, offering the services of the Assn. wherever needed.

Decision for "The Duration"

The Fall Board meeting in Greensboro was poorly attended. The question on posters everywhere was "Is this trip really necessary?" It was decided not to hold any further conventions until peace came. Even the B'nai B'rith picnic, held annually at Holt's Lake since 1928, for the eastern Carolina families, had to be discontinued. The Assn. gave $100 to the Hillel library, and bought a $500 War Bond, which was later given to the Hillel House Building Fund.

No 1943 activity was recorded, other than the final teachers' Institute, and a Board meeting with only eight present, both in Greensboro.

The same attitude was shared by Mr. Evans, who dedicated the Men's Assn. to the war effort, postponing until later the building of a Hillel House at Chapel Hill, which the men had adopted as their main project. The work of Hillel continued in rented quarters, in part of the residence occupied by Rabbi Samuel Sandmel, director.

High Point One-Day Meeting

On June 4, 1944, a one-day streamlined conference was held in High Point at the Sheraton Hotel, with Mrs. Zager and Mr. Evans presiding. No banquet session was planned, as most folks wanted to leave early, many traveling by bus or train. Morning and afternoon business sessions of each group were held, with a joint luncheon for 125, at which Dr. Judah Golden, Professor of Hebrew in the Duke University Divinity School, spoke on three Jewish women heroines of the past three centuries -- Glickel, Dorothea Mendelssohn, and Henrietta Szold. Pvt. John J. Asch, son of Sholom Asch, also appeared on the luncheon program, being stationed in N. C. at the time.

Mrs. Harry Jacobs of High Point and Mr. Ernest Neiman of Raleigh were elected to new presidential posts. Two days later, on June 6, 1944, came V-J Day, when Allied troops effected a Normandy Beach-head landing, and the tide turned toward victory for the Allies. Jewish names now appeared frequently on casualty lists, and every Friday night and holiday service added to the Kaddish "and those who died in defense of their country." Many of the N. C. Jewish men in service were decorated. Each congregation had its own cardboard list of local men; these later became bronze tablets, and a few had stars added.

Heroic Chaplain

Rabbi Alexander Goode, a Loan Fund student from High Point, was stationed at Seymour Johnson before being shipped overseas. In 1943 the transport "Dorchester" was torpedoed and sunk; four chaplains of the Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish faiths gave their life jackets to other men. A Memorial chapel and a commemorative U. S. Postage stamp perpetuated this heroic deed. Chaplain Goode left a wife and child.

At the Fall Board meeting in Greensboro in Oct. 1944, at the Jefferson Roof, first in three years, Mrs. Jacobs set for herself the task of rebuilding the Assn., as only 463 members from 60 towns had paid dues. The Library project was dropped in favor of a Hospital Rehabilitation program, with Mrs. Harry Doctor named as chairman, to find out ways in which the Assn. might help wounded veterans. As chairman of the War Activities committee, Mrs. Edwards asked each community to report its entire war service record.

In Oct. 1944 a testimonial dinner was given by the J. W. B. for Mrs. Gustav Lichtenfels of Asheville, for twenty-seven years of patriotic service, with Mr. E. J. Londow, regional director, in charge. (Mr. and Mrs. Lichtenfels had been credited with bringing over more Jewish refugees than anyone else in N. C.). The N. C. Recreation Commission asked for a list of synagogues in order to mail out questionnaires on church and community recreation facilities.

Mrs. Jacobs represented the Assn. at a "Post-War Problems" Conference called in Raleigh by Gov. J. M. Broughton, who told all that they showed real patriotism in using scarce gasoline to attend. Gov. Broughton was a recipient

of the annual Interfaith Award presented by the "Carolina Israelite" a weekly news sheet published in Charlotte by Mr. Harry Golden, whose nostalgic East Side reminiscences were being widely read. Other recipients of this award were Hon. Josephus Daniels and Dr. Frank P. Graham, bestowed at fitting ceremonies each year.

Post-War Adjustments

The Camp and Hospital Committee, of which Mrs. Harry Doctor of High Point was chairman, in the name of the Assn., sent punch bowls and cups to Moore General Hospital, Asheville, and Oteen, as well as a ping-pong table to the former institution. In subsequent years, six bedside radios went to Camp Lejeune, and a record-player to Greensboro's O. R. D. and to the Veterans' Hospital at Fayetteville. These were greatly appreciated, as they were scarce items during wartime.

Mr. Arthur Goodman represented Mecklenburg County in the 1945 General Assembly. The Legislative Council, which Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed at the home of Josephus Daniels that year, still worked for better schools and improved conditions in prisons and other state institutions. The organizations belonging to the Council, of which N. C. A. J. W. was one, included a membership of 50,000 N. C. women who hoped through legislation to bring about a better social order for N. C.

District meetings were limited to cities: Wilmington, Asheville, and Charlotte. A contribution was made to the Polio Fund. At a Board meeting in High Point in October, Mrs. Herbert Bluethenthal, Loan Fund chairman, reported that one-half of the 47 students helped had repaid their loans. Since no interest was charged, careless borrowers let time slip by; it was agreed that collections should be undertaken in a more positive manner.

Jewish War Records Compiled

J. W. B. commended Mrs. Edwards' compilation of N. C. Jewish War Records, and urged communities to send in information promptly. Her local record from Goldsboro was used as a model by the national office.

After the war, nothing was the same, although it took some time to realize it. There were dozens of new families with no traditional roots. Local girls had married boys assigned to N. C. camps, and many of them decided to settle in North Carolina. New congregations in metropolitan suburbs wanted to build houses of worship and demanded rabbis, of whom there were never enough.

The casual friendly assimilation of the small town disappeared, as newcomers introduced "big city" styles of living. Old-timers took a backseat, and those who had become newly prosperous accepted leadership with alacrity. The Reform style of worship, which had not stood the test in Germany, was questioned; all agreed that resumption of many of the older forms of worship would give strength to the faith. Conservative and Orthodox groups, content to worship heretofore in upstairs halls, began to build handsome synagogues in several places, complete with dietary kitchens for serving large assemblies.

Business success had made many first generation Jews into philanthropists, first because they needed income tax deductions, but finally because

they became imbued with a social consciousness that they could not previously indulge because of economic insecurity. All rationing was removed from food, clothing, gasoline, and autos, but OPA continued to stand watch-dog over rents until ample new housing could be supplied for an ever-growing population.

Conventions Resumed in 1946

Mrs. Harry Jacobs of High Point and Mr. Ernest Neiman of Raleigh presided over the first full-scale conference since 1941, in Winston-Salem Sunday May 12, 1946, at Hotel Robt. E. Lee, with 250 men, women, and young folks present. There were to be no more two-day conventions; this meant, in effect, that more business was carried out at Board meetings than at annual conferences, because of no Monday sessions.

The Youth group, teen-agers who had "come of age" since the last meeting four years previously, joined their elders for the luncheon, which at the time featured problems facing young Jewish people. The earlier organization, carefully nurtured by Mrs. Max Zager, had been outgrown, and its members were now mature adults, many having seen Army service. Mr. Hyman Haves of New York City, Youth Organizer for B'nai B'rith, which was then beginning to gain a secure foothold in the larger cities of N. C., addressed the luncheon meeting on "The Place of Youth in the American Scene." The former Air Force officer was heard with interest. Paul Friedman of High Point succeeded the provisional Youth leader Miss Henrie Harris of Winston-Salem.

Noted Author Speaker

Rabbi F. I. Rypins of Greensboro was still responsible for securing many of the leading speakers in America to appear on convention programs, as was attested by the Banquet address by Leo Lania, German refugee journalist, whose topic was "The Lion and the Bear." He declared that "Anti-Semitism is a danger not alone to the Jews but to the non-Jewish people of the world. Defending the Jewish spiritual heritage is defending the essence of Americanism and democracy."

The silver-covered souvenir menu cards with a picture of Mrs. Sol Weil of Goldsboro, the founder of N. C. A. J. W., reminded all who were old-timers that the Assn. was now 25 years old. The two adult groups agreed to contribute $100 each toward the Youth Group project. Mrs. Rypins had arranged an Exhibit of many objects of Jewish interest on the mezzanine.

Mrs. Al F. Klein of Greensboro and Mr. Harry Doctor became the new presidents of the two Assn's. Mrs. Lewis Rosenberg was named chairman of the Loan Fund; she was from Greensboro. Because of the G. I. Bill of Rights, giving every veteran a college education at government expense, and because of general prosperity, applications had fallen off in this department. The Fund was offered to non-Jews as well as Jews.

In Aug. 1946 there was held a three-day interfaith conference at the I. D. Blumenthal estate "Wildacres" near Little Switzerland, with fifty Catholics, Protestants, and Jews in attendance. This was an outgrowth of Brotherhood Week (each February), and was arranged by Mr. Allyn Robinson, regional director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The usual Fall Board meeting was held in Sept. in Greensboro, always timed so as not to conflict with the Fall Holy Days.

Snow in March in Durham

The March 2, 1947 conference in Durham at the Washington Duke Hotel was held in a blinding snowstorm. The local community and the Assn. treasury went deeply in debt, paying for luncheon and banquet reservations that were not used; after that, experience demanded checks in advance. Mrs. Klein and Mr. Doctor presided and were both re-elected, as was also Paul Friedman, Youth leader. At the joint luncheon, the speaker Rabbi Harry B. Kellman of Vineland, N. J. took as his keynote "Educate Youth and you've educated the Nation." Rabbi Kellman had been a chaplain at Greensboro's O. R. D. (Overseas Replacement Depot) a few years before.

Because of the weather, the Banquet was held an hour earlier, at 6 p.m. The Youth group had a separate buffet supper and dance, with the Durham Chapter of A. Z. A. as hosts. The Banquet speaker was Dr. Julius Mark of Nashville, Tenn., who also had been a chaplain in the Navy. His subject "The Jew Faces a Changing World" posed a challenge that America do all in its power to save the remnant of European Jewry that had escaped Hitler's gas chambers, and give all possible aid in the development of Palestine as a homeland for the Jews. Only because of the Jew's ability to adjust to change, were Jews still alive after centuries of violence. He urged Jews to take the lead in democratic treatment of minority groups, and to hold fast to the ancient teachings of their faith.

Plans to Build Hillel House

The end of the war had put thoughts of building back in the minds of the Jews in N. C. and a Hillel Building Fund for a structure in keeping with the architecture of Chapel Hill was begun by the Men's Assn. The Women's Assn. gave toward this fund the $500 Bond they had purchased with Assn. savings during wartime. Not long thereafter a lot was purchased on Cameron St., just below Carolina Inn, in a neighborhood where many fraternity houses stood.

Mrs. Rypins' fine Exhibit of Jewish books drew favorable attention and stimulated interest in ordering for home and school. Mr. Allyn Robinson of the N. C. C. J. appeared before the group and asked that the Assn. assist a proposed summer workshop at U. N. C.

There was some talk of a field organizer to bring the membership back to normal, but no action was taken when the Board held an early summer meeting in June in Greensboro. The Women's Assn. now had the help of the men with the convention program each year, to the extent of $100. A later Board meeting was held in Charlotte in October, combined with District #2. Mrs. Arthur Goodman of that city continued to hold in line her part of the state, explaining to newcomers just what the Assn. was. Children's socks and other wearing apparel had been sent to several orphanages in the state in the name of the Assn.

High Point Conference 1948

On Sunday Apr. 4, 1948, all three groups held their annual conference in High Point, with 200 present. Adult sessions and joint luncheon were held at Hotel Sheraton, while the young folks met and enjoyed a supper and social hour at B'nai Israel Synagogue. Mrs. Klein, Mr. Doctor, and Paul Friedman were the presiding officers. By now the pattern was well established, that

the Men's Assn. should arrange the luncheon program and the Women's Assn. the banquet at night.

The luncheon speaker, Rabbi William Sajowitz of Gastonia, told of the responsibilities of leadership, entitling his talk "On Top of the World". Because of the young people present at the joint meal, the message was beamed especially at them. The popular banquet speaker, Rabbi Harry B. Kellman of Camden, N. J., filled a return engagement with his dynamic address "A Pattern for Living" with the basic requirements listed as "Faith in God and in the Brotherhood of Man". A rare treat at the dinner was Mr. Donald Trexler's program of Hebrew songs, accompanied by Mrs. Trexler, both of Greensboro.

At the morning business session Mrs. Al F. Klein, outgoing president, gave a comprehensive account of her two years in office. One of the most continuously active of the Assn. leaders, Mrs. Klein had been secretary of Greensboro's Temple Emanuel and assistant editor of the "American Jewish Times" Magazine, published there by Mr. Chester Brown. Min Klein was dedicated to furthering Youth work among Jewish High School and college students. She recognized the fact that several years of war emphasis had turned interest away from Assn. membership and projects. Now the task of rebuilding was likened to re-tooling a major industry.

Many New Congregations

With the number of congregations (Reform and Conservative) increased to sixteen, each with a full-time rabbi, the day of the isolated Jewish community had passed. No longer hungry for Jewish contacts, and better adjusted to their American surroundings, the Jews of N. C., in good economic condition, were ready to break whatever Ghetto threads remained. Mrs. Klein advocated entry into public life, social and welfare organizations, and took pride in the fact that the Assn. was already an acknowledged partner in the Legislative Council and Interfaith Workshops. She had on several occasions spoken as the Assn. representative.

Mrs. Rypins had assembled another remarkable exhibit of Jewish books and art objects. Copies of the illustrated book "The Jewish Festivals" had been sent to twenty-six college libraries by the Assn. and magazine subscriptions were given to Veterans' Hospitals. The Sophia Einstein Loan Fund, an irrevocable trust, had now helped forty-seven boys and girls to receive a college education, most from N. C., but some from other states who were attending N. C. colleges.

A resolution presented by Atty. Harry Ganderson of Greensboro was adopted, and copies sent to all N. C. Senators and Representatives, the Governor and the President, asking that the United Nations Organization be strengthened and developed into a World Government. All of these were duly acknowledged.

Mrs. Max Miller New Pres.

Upon Mrs. Max Miller's election to the presidency, Mrs. Klein became advisor to the Youth group, a position she held with distinction for several years; Henry Shavitz of High Point was now Youth leader. Arthur Aronson of Raleigh was elected Men's Assn. president. Mrs. Miller, as Irene Kahn, had been a 'depression' Loan Fund student; she had recently moved from Raleigh to

Greensboro, where she quickly became a vital cog in the community.

On May 15, 1948, the new state of Israel came into being, bringing into reality the dream of the Jewish people for 6,000 years, to have their own homeland, to which every Jew might come if desired. Pres. Harry Truman, who had succeeded Franklin D. Roosevelt upon the latter's death in 1945, gave prompt recognition to the new nation, thus launching it into the world family under favorable auspices. Pres. Truman won the next presidential term 'on his own' and forever after held the gratitude of Jews everywhere for his helping hand to tiny young Israel. American Jews worked harder and gave more than ever to build the ancient land into a modern industrial country. Tours and international conventions in Israel became commonplace shortly thereafter.

The delightful Blumenthal estate "Wildacres" in the mountains of Western N. C., was becoming a center for Jewish and non-Jewish gatherings. B'nai B'rith annually sent notable teachers and lecturers for adult gatherings. The staff expense made it necessary to guarantee a minimum of fifty persons for each weekly gathering; soon folks had to be turned away! The Youth camp planned to be held there in 1948 had to be called off because of the outbreak of polio in the state.

N. C. C. J. Workshop at U. N. C.

The Assn. each summer paid the scholarship expense of a student at the International Education Workshop at U. N. C. conducted by the Regional director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Mr. Allyn Robinson; and at the Fall Board meeting one of the recipients expressed her gratitude at sharing in what she termed a wonderful experience.

In Oct. 1948 during the annual convention of the N. C. Division of the Daughters of the Confederacy in Charlotte, a granite marker was placed on a downtown street at the site where Judah P. Benjamin, Confederate cabinet member, had lived for a short time. This noted Jewish statesman and scholar fled to England after the collapse of the Confederacy, and had a brilliant career as a British barrister.

At the Nov. 3d Board meeting at Bliss' Restaurant in Greensboro, foster homes for Jewish orphans were sought. Because of the rise in the cost of printing, the 1948-49 Year Book was the last one issued with a full account of convention proceedings and a list of members. Four years later a directory of Jewish families in N. C. was published. In the meantime, mimeographed or printed bulletins were sent to members. The Greensboro triumvirate -- Weinberg, Klein, and Miller -- attended a District meeting in Goldsboro in Nov., where 68 women from surrounding towns heard of the past and present aims of the Assn.

1949 Raleigh Convention

The 28th Women's, 16th Men's, and third Youth's meetings took place in Raleigh at Hotel Sir Walter on Sun. May 1, 1949. Presidents Miller, Aronson, and Shavitz carried on the affairs of their respective organizations in a creditable manner prior to the convention, and presided over the sessions of the Raleigh gathering, which were well attended. The young crowd met and later ate at the assembly rooms of Temple Beth Or.

Two outstanding members of the rabbinical profession were heard as luncheon and banquet speakers -- Samuel Perlman, Hillel director at Chapel Hill, and Abraham Schusterman of Baltimore, Md. Those present were treated to a musical dessert at both meals by the Temple Beth Or choir, under the direction of Dr. Nell Hirschberg, who had come to N. C. from Chicago as laboratory supervisor with the State Health Dept., and entered into the community life of the Capital City with know-how and enthusiasm.

Mrs. Rypins proved by her display of Jewish books that ample material was being produced in attractive form for the education of older as well as younger Jews everywhere. New leaders selected for the Men's and Youth's groups were Chester Brown of Greensboro and Roger Ackerman of Wallace.

Post-War Apathy Felt

Mrs. Miller continued as Women's Assn. president and struggled constantly but often in vain to find willing local workers, and support for projects to which the Assn. was committed. Unanswered letters and those reciting how involved everyone already was were commonplace. Her sincere belief was that the strength of the Assn. depended upon personal contacts, and it was distressing to find that few had the time or the inclination to continue the work of the past three decades.

The general apathy was believed to be a let-down from wartime tension, in which everyone over-extended herself. A notable exception was an enthusiastic District meeting at the Tarboro Country Club in Nov. 1949, arranged by Mrs. M. Heilbroner of that city and Mrs. Irving M. Margolis of Williamston, with almost a dozen eastern N. C. towns represented. Such meetings were planned so that the President could attend. Those in the east, living in small towns, still welcomed get-togethers, such as the B'nai B'rith picnics now resumed, whereas the Piedmont section was already in danger of being over-organized Jewishly.

Because it was difficult to get a full complement of District Directors, it was decided to divide the State into three Districts instead of eight. The Fall Board meeting was held in Nov. at Bliss' in Greensboro, where it was reported that not enough interest had been shown to justify holding a summer youth gathering at Camp Jancy.

Rabbis of N. C. Organize

The 18 rabbis in N. C. now had their own Assn. and usually held meetings in Chapel Hill. It was not until 1952 that the Rabbis decided to hold their meetings concurrently with the other groups.

Mrs. Miller had been very active in civic work in Greensboro, and especially in the U. S. Savings Bonds campaigns, being a member of the state executive board; Bond headquarters were in Greensboro. The publications featured women's organizations geared for the program, and Dr. Nell Hirschberg was named as the Assn's. chairman. Mrs. Miller, in sending out the literature for this campaign, included notices of the next Assn. convention to be held in Greensboro, thus taking a 'piggy-back' ride that saved the Assn. $80 in postage.

Greensboro Host to 1950 Meet

At mid-century, the Jews of N. C. took a look backward and a look ahead, at the April 16th convention; the young folks came in a day early and began their festivities with a Saturday night supper party at Greensboro's handsome new Beth David Synagogue. Sunday's joint luncheon afforded Roger Ackerman the opportunity to tell of the activities and aims of his group. The Sunday afternoon Youth session was held at Temple Emanuel, followed by a buffet supper and social. The Men's Assn. held its Sunday afternoon session at the O'Henry Hotel, where all adult affairs were centered.

Rabbi Phillip Frankel of Charlotte was the speaker for the Sunday luncheon, presided over by Mr. Chester Brown, Men's Assn. president. Greensboro, long noted as a cultural center, always provided musical numbers of a high order, drawing on the faculty and students from the city's colleges. Again, Mrs. Rypins showed the cream of the crop in Jewish books; as an experienced teacher in public and private schools and assistant to her husband, she was a real authority on classroom techniques.

At a brilliant Banquet, Miss Gertrude Weil had the honor of introducing Dr. Frank P. Graham, former President of U. N. C., now U. S. Senator, and soon to become special administrator to the United Nations. Dr. Graham's fine address more than justified the selection of a non-Jewish speaker, for he had proved his consideration for justice and fair play throughout his entire life, and was especially helpful in bringing to N. C. the Hillel Foundation at Chapel Hill.

Gertrude Weil Heads Assn. Again

Mrs. Miller, who had done an excellent job of 'holding the line' went from the presidency of the Assn. to the state presidency of the N. C. League of Women Voters, to which she gave loyal service.

Miss Gertrude Weil of Goldsboro, stalwart pioneer in many good causes, became president again after having headed the organization in its formative early years from 1925 to 1927. Miss Weil had been head of a Projects committe to search for useful avenues of service for the organization, and her administration was dedicated to making the Assn. a household word in every Jewish home in N. C. Albert Levine of Raleigh was chosen to lead the Men's Assn., and the Youth group elected as president Morton Harold Ershler of High Point.

The Youth group was giving real concern to the parent Assn. They followed the pattern of the usual teen-agers of the period, and considered everything fair game for their campaigns. They ignored curfews, chaperones, and parliamentary procedure. Mrs. Klein as their advisor kept them in hand as well as she could, but it was soon realized that an advisor from the Men's group was also necessary. Each adult Assn. gave money toward a summer Youth camp, and considered that some choice in leadership should be submitted to them. Each group of youngsters consisted of strong individualists, always replenished from those just growing up.

FOURTH DECADE
1951-1961

Goldsboro Convention 1951

Goldsboro had established a pattern -- that each decade of Assn. progress should be launched in the city of its founding. Hence the three groups met at Hotel Goldsboro Sunday April 1, 1951, just thirty years from the organizational meeting.

In sending out invitations to the Goldsboro convention, Miss Weil enclosed a convenient folder stating the object and projects of the Assn. This represented the first direct information many members had received, since no Year Books had been issued since 1948-49, and new or prospective members wanted something tangible besides a receipt for their dollar dues. The leaflet listed the Loan Fund, Youth group sponsorship, a Brandeis campership, a teachers' Institute, participation in the Legislative Council, and sending a student to the Institute of Human Relations at U. N. C.

The Youth group, under Mortie Ershler's direction, arrived in Goldsboro on Saturday; the boys and girls were entertained in local homes. A buffet supper and dance were given for them at the Woman's Club Bldg., where they also held a Sunday morning business meeting, and had supper, consisting mainly of Kosher hog dogs. Emphasis on youth was the keynote of the joint luncheon at Hotel Goldsboro, when Rabbi Samuel Cook of Cincinnati, Youth Director for the Union of American Hebrew congregations, gave a very sympathetic and understanding portrayal of juvenile needs among Jewish youth in a post-war world.

Jennie Barron, Woman Judge

The headline event of the 1951 convention was Judge Jennie L. Barron's address at the Sunday night Banquet at Hotel Goldsboro. From Boston, Mass., where she was a municipal court judge, this amazing woman, the child of Russian immigrants, had carved for herself a career that brought to her degrees, honors, medals, and citations from her state and nation. Jennie Loitman Barron was to reap many more of these honors following her visit to Goldsboro. A law library was named for her in New York City at the American Jewish Congress national headquarters. She was a U. S. delegate to the 1955 Geneva Conference on Crime Prevention; in 1959 she was appointed a Superior Court judge for life by Gov. Foster Furculo of Massachusetts.

With all of her professional duties, Judge Barron reared a family of three daughters and nine grandchildren, all of whom came together in her home every Friday night for Sabbath candle-lighting. When she was selected as U. S. A. Mother of the Year for 1959, her husband Sam, also an attorney, said "She's done everything else on her own, but she couldn't get this award without me."

Dr. Nell Hirschberg had brought her Raleigh Temple Choir to Goldsboro, and they were heard with delight at both luncheon and banquet. Jake Shrago, then serving as State B. B. president, was an active host. The newly-organized group of Rabbis, headed by Rabbi Fred I. Rypins of Greensboro, dean of N. C. rabbis, met at Oheb Sholom Temple and decided to hold their annual conference each Spring with the other Assn's. Rabbi Rypins continued as

leader of this group for another year. After business sessions Sunday afternoon, the local community held "Open House" at the Woman's Club for all groups. Officers chosen to head the several Assn's. were: Women, Dr. Nell Hirschberg of Raleigh; Men, E. R. Ackerman, Wallace and Chapel Hill; Youth, Richard Bernstein, Charlotte.

Hillel House Dedicated

After being housed in temporary quarters for fifteen years, with building plans interrupted by World War II, the Hillel Foundation at Chapel Hill finally came into its own with a handsome brick building planned for its needs of study, worship, recreation, and consultation. This appropriate edifice on Cameron St., built and maintained by the Jews of N. C., was opened and dedicated in 1951, with both Assn's., taking pride in this accomplishment. The former structure, also owned by Hillel, became a home for the director. B'nai B'rith pays the director's salary in this as in 200 other units on or near American college campuses.

The first Hillel House at Chapel Hill was opened in 1936 in the Y. M. C. A. Bldg., as the result of a determined financial campaign by the Men's and the Women's Assn's. (This was also the year that the N. C. B'nai B'rith Assn. was perfected). U. N. C. then had the 12th Hillel unit in the country. The first director, Rabbi Bernard Zeiger, established part-time office hours at nearby Duke, N. C. State, and the Woman's College. These "Counselorships" are still maintained, often with the help of rabbis from neighboring communities.

Since 1952 the Hillel director at U. N. C. has been Rabbi Ephraim M. Rosenzweig. The Bldg. is not only a spiritual and social center, ministering to the needs of several hundred Jewish students, but serves as a conference station for many statewide groups, since it is centrally located.

The summer institutes and youth camps continued, and at the Fall Board meeting in 1951, Dr. Hirschberg, the new Women's president, asked for a searching study as to how the Assn. could be of greatest usefulness to the Jewish people of the state. Another project was the publication of a directory of N. C. Jewish families; for this Mrs. Margolis' fine census needed to be brought up to date, a long and tedious process, because of failure to reply or indifference on the part of local women whose help was sought.

Winston-Salem Meet

On Sunday May 25, 1952, the program ushered in a four-fold gathering:

N. C. A. J. W.	- Dr. Nell Hirschberg, Pres.
N. C. A. J. M.	- Mr. E. R. Ackerman, Pres.
N. C. A. J. Y.	- Richard Bernstein, Pres.
N. C. A. Rabbis	- Rabbi F. I. Rypins, Pres.

Although it was organized in 1949, this was the first time that the Rabbis' Assn. program was combined with the other groups.

Meetings were at Hotel Robt. E. Lee, with the exception of the Youth group; they did their eating, meeting, and socializing at Winston-Salem's Temple Emanuel. The Temple Choir provided music for the luncheon and the banquet.

Dr. Abraham Millgram of Richmond, noted educator and rabbi, conducted a panel discussion at the joint luncheon on "Jewish Education in N. C." The three participants were Rabbis Aaron Tofield of Charlotte"s Temple Israel; Jerome Tolochko, Kinston; and William Gold, High Point. Dr. Millgram was also the main speaker at the Sunday evening banquet, presided over by Miss Gertrude Weil in the absence of Dr. Hirschberg, who was unable to be present. For the following year, Dr. Nell continued as Women's leader; other Assns. chose as new leaders: Men, Harry Ganderson of Greensboro; Rabbis, Aaron Tofield; and Youth, Jerry Jacobs, High Point.

During the summer of 1952, Dr. Hirschberg was able to use her vacation time to attend the several Institutes held at "Wildacres" -- the Youth Group under Rabbi Gold's direction, and a later leadership course. Rabbi Gold also arranged a Teachers' Conference in High Point. On her frequent laboratory inspection trips, Dr. Nell often sought out local Jewish leaders and tried to inspire them to exert a little more effort for a strong unified organization. She set a good example of civic participation in Raleigh, and held an office in the N. C. Legislative Council, as well as in many other humanitarian movements.

The "Wildacres Story"

"Wildacres", Blue Ridge mountain-top vacation spot and workshop, was an estate of 1,400 acres first developed by Thomas Dixon, author of the book "The Clansman" from which the movie "Birth of a Nation' was made. The Dixon dream of a writers' and artists' colony got underway just after World War I and a 50-room dormitory, assembly and dining halls were built in rustic mountain fashion, and a crude road begun from Little Switzerland, just a few miles away.

With the onset of the depression of the late twenties, there were no artists or writers who could afford to take cultural time off, and the "Wildacres" plan seemed doomed. After Mr. Dixon's death, the property was put on the market. Because of its inaccessibility, the price was far below the actual investment in land and buildings.

Mr. I. D. Blumenthal of Charlotte, prominent industrialist and lay leader, heard of the property, and envisioned a gathering place for the people of N. C. and neighboring states. No one bid against him, and he became the owner of the property in 1936. Not until ten years later, after World War II, was he able to get materials or transportation to put the buildings in repair, install lights and water, and equip a modern kitchen to comply with dietary laws.

By the fifties, the name of "Wildacres" was well known all over the U. S. because of B'nai B'rith's enthusiastic selection of it in 1948 as a site for one of their early Institutes, that were repeated each year with increasing attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal -- Dick and Madolyn -- offered their place to non-Jews as well as Jews, calling it a laboratory of Human Relations. Ministerial groups from many faiths, Civitans and their High School "Junior Citizens" found inspiration and living proof of the spirit of Brotherhood, as they gathered in peaceful surroundings and heard discourses by humanitarians, or took part in beneficial discussions that cleared away many

mental cobwebs. Lodging and meals were on a cost basis, and the staff consisted largely of college students working during vacation.

N. C. Directory 1953

The long-awaited directory of N. C. men, women, and rabbis made its debut at the next convention in High Point Apr. 12, 1953. It contained the names and addresses of nearly 5,000 Jewish heads of families in 93 large and small communities. This gigantic undertaking, with proof-reading and final editing, was a creditable achievement, but the cost $366.86 was a heavy drain on a scanty treasury. The Men's Assn. agreed to pay half the cost. The little red book continued to be a handy guide for many years to come. With $300 a year promised to the Youth camp, and routine expenses, there was not enough money to continue the scholarships to Brandeis Camp and U. N. C. Workshop. An invitation to provide draperies for the Hillel House had to be refused. A proposal to raise dues from one to two dollars per year was voted down, although eventually the women did as the men had already done, and raised to $2.

In Feb. 1953 Mrs. Max Miller and Jack Salz of Greensboro were asked to explore the possibilities of merging the Men's and the Women's Assns. It was not felt that any benefits would derive therefrom, however, and the matter was dropped after being reported at the two Board meetings.

High Point Center

High Point had become a thriving Jewish community, and the 1953 annual meeting there at the handsome new B'nai Israel Education Center was indeed an inspiration. Few communities in the state had such adequate facilities for gatherings and serving of Kosher meals. The population around Greensboro-High Point-Winston-Salem had swelled, and the crowds in attendance were well pleased with the spacious surroundings.

Harry Ganderson, Greensboro attorney and Men's Assn. president, presided over the Sunday luncheon; the speaker was Lt.-Gov. Luther M. Hodges, who shortly thereafter succeeded the late Gov. Wm. B. Umstead. Gov. Hodges had a breadth of outlook that was stimulating to growth-conscious Tar Heels, and all felt the warmth and interest of his personality. The evening Banquet, ably conducted by Miss Nell Hirschberg, featured an address by Dr. Jacob R. Marcus, professor of History at the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, O.

The Sophia Einstein Loan Fund had been placed in the hands of a man, Harry Ganderson, who promptly put everything on a businesslike basis, sought to collect overdue repayments, and publicized the funds in hand, then approximately $8,000. All State-controlled colleges had been supplied with details, and the response was overwhelming. There was no change as to the non-sectarian use of the Fund, and for the first time, Negroes attending N. C. colleges were also given assistance.

Important New Projects

An unusual project was presented at the High Point meeting by Mr. I. D. Blumenthal of Charlotte. The Men's Assn. accepted the challenge of providing a $25,000 Mobile Chapel and School-room for a Circuit-Riding Rabbi who would visit regularly the small towns without Jewish religious contacts.

Mr. Blumenthal, who was elected Men's Assn. president, set out to have the Bus rolling by the following year.

S. E. Director of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds Zeff launched the idea of an Old Folks' Home. Rabbi Gold and Mr. Jos. Barr of High Point went to work on this right away. It was not the first time that such a subject had come up, but it now seemed that the time was ripe to look into the matter, since the nearest institutions in Richmond, Atlanta, and Jacksonville, Fla. were always well-filled.

Rabbi Tofield continued as President of the Rabbis' Assn. Gerald Waitman of Fayetteville became Youth group leader, and for the first time a Wilmingtonian Mrs. B. D. Schwartz became Women's Assn. President, succeeding Dr. Hirschberg who continued to be quite active.

Does N. C. Need Home for Aged?

At a Board meeting of the Women's Assn. Jan. 26, 1954 at Bliss' Restaurant, Greensboro, the matter of looking into the possibility of a Home for Jewish Aged in N. C. came up. Mrs. Max Miller and Rabbi Wm. Gold were asked to investigate the Beth Sholom Home in Richmond, and report at the Spring convention. Soon thereafter they visited the Virginia institution, which was opened in 1946 in an old building that was already outgrown. 32 residents required a staff of 14; majority entered after age 65, some older. Operating costs were $3.70 a day per patient; this came from families of those admitted, contributions and memberships, and state-wide Jewish fund-raising. A requirement for admission was the signing over to the Home of all real and personal property.

The report recommended that the N. C. A. J. W. immediately initiate such a project. This action was taken at the April 1954 convention, and the Assn. started off the Fund for a Jewish Home for the Aged with $100; solicitations were asked from individuals and organizations in each local community.

Mr. Jos. Barr and Rabbi Wm. Gold, both of High Point, were named as co-chairmen. Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Klein, both former presidents, and Mrs. Theo Samet of High Point were members of this first committee.

Charlotte Convention 1954

The Blumenthals did everything in their power to make the 1954 convention in Charlotte, on Sun. Apr. 4 at the Amity Country Club, a success. Mrs. Schwartz, Women's Assn. president, had continued and strengthened the time-honored projects of the organization, and the Loan Fund, Youth program, and Teachers' Institute had advanced under able leadership.

Rabbi Simcha Kling, of Greensboro's Beth David Synagogue, as program chairman had brought two able speakers to Charlotte. Dr. J. Marshall Taxay spoke at the joint luncheon, and Dr. D. A. Jesurun Cordoza gave the Banquet address, both being eminent in the rabbinical field.

$50 was given the Hillel library. Rabbi Rosenzweig, the director at Chapel Hill, urged that every community should plan programs in observance of the Jewish Tercentenary 1654-1954. Rabbis of the State were asked to give space in their bulletins and speak from their pulpits regarding the activities

of the Assn. It was hoped that an occasional District meeting might be held. Junior advisors from all three adult Assns. were named to work out summer camp plans and an Institute program for "Wildacres".

Circuit-Riding Rabbi Project

The Men's Assn. became truly enthusiastic regarding the Circuit-Riding Rabbi. Instead of a car and a trailer, as first proposed, an order was placed for a custom-built, air-conditioned coach. Pep meetings were held and substantial pledges were already coming in. Nobody -- but NOBODY -- could promote a project like Dick Blumenthal, who was continued in the presidency of the Men's Assn. for the next eight years.

Mrs. Irving M. Margolis of Williamston, in the far northeastern corner of the state, who had traveled more miles to attend meetings than anyone else during her long service on the Board, became the new President of the Women's Assn. and accepted the sponsoring of a Home for the Aged as the theme of her administration. Rabbi Wm. Gold of High Point and Paul Fine of the same city were chosen to head the Rabbis and Youth.

Local Support Sought

At the Fall Board meeting in Raleigh Oct. 17, 1954 it was decided to take the campaign for an Old Folks' Home to every District; for this Rabbi Gold volunteered his services. There were to be local chairmen appointed; emphasis shifted from the Loan Fund, now well financed, to this new appeal. Suggestions were to place collection boxes in every home at a penny-a-day, or to take out Savings and Loan shares; Rocky Mount had already raised $100 in this manner, under Mrs. Leon Epstein's coaching.

It was decided to place all Assn. records with the N. C. Dept. of Archives and History in Raleigh, after they were used to bring the Assn. History up to date; Mrs. N. A. Edwards continued as Historian. Suggestions from Rabbi Gold, intended to stabilize the Youth group, were that adult advisors and rabbis should help secure the staff for the "Wildacres" Institutes, and that early plans should be made so as not to have haphazard gatherings; Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal, owners of "Wildacres", were always helpful and cooperative.

Mrs. Margolis met with the Home for the Aged committee in Nov. in Greensboro, and a tentative goal of $150,000 to $200,000 was set up. All Districts were to have chairmen appointed, with extra city boosters, and members of the committee hoped to visit many parts of the State. It was conceded that help of organizations other than the Women's Assn. would be needed.

Jewish Tercentenary 1954

Jews had first come to America in 1654. All over the country, the noteworthy event was being observed, and many N. C. communities took note of it. Officers of the adult Assns. met and were photographed with Gov. Wm. B. Umstead in Raleigh on the eve of the celebration. In Dec. Harry Golden of Charlotte, editor of the "Carolina Israelite" and author of the best-seller "Only in America", presented a scholarly paper at the annual meeting of the N. C. Literary and Historical Society on "The Jewish People of N. C."

The address was published in full in the April 1955 issue of the N. C. Historical Review.

The Women's Assn. held a Board meeting at the Raleigh Y. M. C. A. in Feb. 1955. Definite plans for promoting the Home for the Aged were made, and lists of local leaders compiled. The N. C. Legislative Council had doubled its annual dues, now $50, in order to employ a full-time secretary during the General Assembly.

Bus Ready to Roll 1955

On Sun. Mar. 27, 1955 at the Amity Country Club in Charlotte, a Dedication Service was held when the General Motors Coach Chapel Bus was put into operation in a dozen North and South Carolina towns. Mr. Blumenthal, the original spark-plug, had arranged an inspirational program and those who sponsored the project financially had a part in the ceremonies. The Eternal Light (powered by a special battery) was turned on, the Scrolls placed in the Ark, and library shelves stocked with books, to make a complete worship and teaching center. Prayers and responses were recited, greetings brought from the N. C. Council of Churches, and the first circuit-riding rabbi in history was introduced. Rabbi Harold A. Friedman of Scranton, Pa. was to reside in Statesville, but later moved his residence to Rock Hill, S. C. Rabbi Friedman introduced Dr. Abram L. Sachar, president of Brandeis University and former national Hillel Director, (who had spoken to the Assn. in 1935) who gave a brilliant dedicatory address. The atmosphere was truly consecrated.

Newspapers of the State carried accounts and pictures of the ceremony. Later in the summer, "Life" magazine pictured the unique bus service, and showed pictures of typical activities as Rabbi Friedman went about his daily routine (in Wallace, N. C.). Non-Jews gathered around the bus wherever it went, for this was the first project of its kind in the entire country. Mr. Blumenthal was a past master in public relations. Soon films, television, and radio programs carried details of the unique vehicle; feature stories appeared in many news magazines and religious journals.

Hickory, Albemarle, Statesville, Lumberton, Rock Hill, Jacksonville, Wallace, Whiteville, Weldon, and Roanoke Rapids were regular points of call. Bar Mitzvahs, marriages, confirmations, visits to the sick and bereaved, funerals, adult Hebrew and Bible classes, festival parties, Seders, and observance of historic events appeared often on the calendar, as well as supervised religious instruction for 300 children. Confirmands were given prayer books, mezzuzahs, and other ritual symbols; cards carrying "Grace before and after Meals" were distributed.

Statesville reopened its long-closed temple, and other communities built and dedicated their own houses of worship during the mid-fifties -- Kinston, Wilson, Weldon, Whiteville, Hickory, Lumberton, and Jacksonville. Thus the religious revival inspired many youngsters who had never before been exposed to any form of Jewish worship. Rabbi Tolochko's television series on the Jewish festivals proved to be a good-will builder.

Wilmington Convention 1955

The Mobile Synagogue Bus was the center of attraction at the annual four-fold convention in Wilmington Sun. Apr. 24, 1955, as it was parked

outside the new B'nai Israel Synagogue, of which Rabbi Samuel Friedman was spiritual leader. Kosher meals prepared by the local congregation were a real treat for a large gathering. The luncheon speaker was Rabbi Harold A. Friedman, Circuit-riding Rabbi, who delighted his audience with the account of his roving religious activities; Mrs. Friedman was a great help in his work also. The Youth Assn. was represented by Paul I. Fine of High Point. Mr. Blumenthal presided over the luncheon, and Men's Assn. business meeting. Rabbi Gold of High Point was rabbis' Assn. president.

As the luncheon featured the Circuit Bus, the Banquet had as its theme the N. C. Home for the Aged, championed by Mrs. Margolis, Women's Assn. leader, who presided. At afternoon meetings, the adult Assns. had gone thoroughly into many phases of the project; and colored sketches of an ideal institution, made by a High Point architect under the direction of Mr. Barr and Rabbi Gold, were on display. Included were a Chapel, kitchen, dining-room, bedrooms with baths, recreation lounge, and nurses' quarters. All agreed that the Home should be centrally located near cultural and medical facilities.

To provide an authentic starting-point for the Home project, the Banquet speaker chosen was Mr. Morris Zelditch, Director of Social Planning, Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, of New York. Points brought out by Mr. Zelditch were that those who could pay should pay; those who could not pay should be received anyway; there should be an infirmary, as half of all patients need nursing care. The cost of a 40-bed operation should run around $10,000 to $12,500 a bed; the cost of keeping inmates would not be less than $150. a month. The speaker came to N. C. again for consultation as plans materialized.

Multiple Projects Continue

The annual expense of the Youth camp at "Wildacres" for the instructional staff amounted to $900. Of this the Men and Women gave 1/3 each, and the youngsters put on a talent show to raise the balance. The Loan Fund, under Mr. Ganderson, showed $8,000 available for students; $2,000 had been collected on old inactive accounts, testifying to the energy and ability of the chairman. Three funds were available: The original S. E. Fund, where repayments went into the principal; the Etta Spier Scholarship, direct gifts; and the Revolving Fund, where miscellaneous receipts might be put without going into the principal. By now the committee knew just how much would be available for loans each year.

Annual dues to the Women's Assn. were raised to $2.00, as the Men had done shortly before; it was decided the following year that fifty cents of each member's dues should go into the Home for the Aged Fund. 385 members were on the rolls. The former plan of nine Districts had been restored; meetings had been held in Goldsboro and Rocky Mount. Mrs. Margolis had represented the Assn. at many gatherings, and had sent a telegram of condolence to the family of the late Gov. Wm. B. Umstead. Collection boxes in the shape of half-pint milk cartons, printed with the Assn. project (Home for the Aged) were to be distributed.

Jewish Gatherings at "Wildacres"

The Blumenthals had allotted five weeks in the summer of 1955 to Jewish gatherings; other denominations and civic groups were holding

meetings there also. B. B. Youths, Young Adults, Rabbis, and Circuit Rabbi's general conference were scheduled for July and August.

The Young Adults were the youngsters who had grown up; they had just organized under Jerry Hyman of Greensboro, but had been very active socially. Their representatives, as well as leaders of other Assns. were present at the Fall Board meeting at Bliss' in Oct. 1955. Harriet Pearlstein of Fayetteville made an able plea for the teen-agers.

Mr. Cyril Jacobs, Greensboro accountant, took over the Loan Fund chairmanship after Mr. Ganderson moved to Virginia. Six new loans had been made; 73% of former loans had been repaid. The Assn. voted to join the newly-organized N. C. Council of Women's organizations at $25 a year, and named Mrs. Sam Freedman of Durham as Council representative.

Genuine regret was expressed at the absence because of illness of Mrs. Hattie Spier Weinberg, the Assn.'s first Field Organizer. A Chanukah Bulletin mailed to all members by Mrs. Margolis carried news of Assn. activity.

The Women's Assn. was 35 years old Jan. 12, 1956; members were asked in a letter from Pres. Margolis to send birthday gifts to the Home Fund, of which Mr. Chester Brown of Greensboro was treasurer. Being held for the early purchase of a site was a nucleus of $1,728. Mrs. Margolis asked for a count of Jewish persons in N. C. over 60, because it was felt that five years would elapse before a place could be offered. Mrs. Max Miller represented the Assn. at a District meeting in Statesville.

Gertrude Weil Honoree 1956

The Sidney Stern B'nai B'rith Lodge of Greensboro honored Gertrude Weil of Goldsboro at its annual Celebrity Night Jan. 15, 1956 at the Starmount Country Club. There was a tremendous outpouring of friends and well-wishers of this truly noble modest Jewess, now 77 years old and still going strong! Dr. Frank P. Graham, former Pres. of U. N. C., was the speaker and dwelt with deep feeling on his closeness to the Weil family, several members of which had been trustees and benefactors of the Greater Univ. of N. C. Mrs. Margolis paid a fine tribute to Miss Gertrude's devotion to the N. C. A. J. W., she having served twice as its President, and in countless other capacities, all with distinction.

Greensboro 1956 Convention

The five groups, including the addition of the Young Adults, meeting in Greensboro Sun. Apr. 15, 1956, planned a full program. As usual some group meetings were held outside the O'Henry Hotel; for these the city's two Jewish houses of worship provided ample quarters. The luncheon featured an address by Circuit Rabbi Harold A. Friedman. The Banquet, at which the new officers were presented, was held at 6:30 and adjourned early in order to transport those attending to the Senior High Auditorium, where Greensboro's second annual Music Festival was being held, with special selections from the choral works of Ernst Bloch, Jewish composer, then 75 years old.

With more active District chairmen, the membership had more than doubled, with 889 reported. Besides the 50-cent quota, the Home project was given $100. $50 went to the Circuit Bus for an Encyclopedia.

Mrs. Blumenthal New Women's Pres.

Mrs. Margolis had done a superb job of putting the organization back to work with projects of genuine appeal, and she was warmly thanked as she turned over her gavel to the newly-elected President, Mrs. I. D. Blumenthal of Charlotte, who let it be known right away that she was personally dedicated to the early establishment of a N. C. Home for the Jewish Aged. Mrs. Stanley Kahn of Raleigh, truly a "Pearl", was promoted from secretary to vice-president, but she was still called on for clear concise minutes for several more years. Rabbi Simcha Kling of Greensboro and Ronald Geline of Wilson became new Rabbis' and Youth leaders. Mr. Blumenthal continued as Men's Assn. President, and his wife's work dovetailed perfectly, as both shared common ambitions for the future of the Jewish people of N. C.

A joint Board meeting of Men's and Women's Assns. was held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Neiman in Raleigh Oct. 28, 1956. At this large Sunday gathering, leaders were brought up to date on the progress of all projects, and plans were made for the 1957 annual convention. Mrs. Oscar Legum of Raleigh and Rabbi Saml. A. Friedman of Wilmington continued as Youth Advisors, and the Men's Assn. named Mr. Monroe Evans of Fayetteville to a similar position. The Youth Camp, still noted for its high spirits and individualism, was now being held at Osceola near Hendersonville.

1957 Convention in Raleigh

Dr. Nell Hirschberg, former Women's Assn. Pres., was general chairman for the 36th annual convention held in Raleigh Sun. May 19, 1957 at the Sir Walter Hotel; the other groups had not been organized so long. Mrs. Blumenthal hit upon the idea of calling this 36th year the "Double C'hai Anniversary" and the figure was suggested for gifts to the Home. Business sessions were held in Hotel or Temple rooms. A sad rite was a Memorial Service by Gertrude Weil in tribute to the late Mrs. Hattie S. Weinberg, early field secretary of the Women's Assn.

The luncheon speaker was the new Circuit-Riding Rabbi Eli Gottesman, who had succeeded Rabbi Harold Friedman, who took a single-station pastorate. At the Sunday evening Banquet, Miss Weil called on Charter Members for honorary recognition; and new officers were installed. The main address was given by Mr. Herman D. Stein of the New York School of Social Work of Columbia University, and covered many points on which the Assn. needed information before proceeding with its Home plans; on hand in that fund was $4,452.76, with interest at 4% (or better) being constantly added.

Mrs. Sam Freedman of Durham had represented the Assn. at the Conference on World Affairs and Leadership Course at U. N. C. in connection with the recently-organized N. C. Council of Women's Organizations. A revision of the Constitution was authorized. The Loan Fund was helping seven students through college, all non-Jews, of whom three were Negroes. The limit on individual loans per year had been increased to $500. No first year loans were made.

The Blumenthal proposal to secure 100 or more sponsors for the Home, each of whom would contribute $1,000 over a four-year period was heartily endorsed. Mrs. Blumenthal had attended and talked on the aims of the Assn. at a successful District meeting in Williamston in March at the Roanoke Country Club, with ten towns represented, under Mrs. Margolis.

Board Meetings at "Wildacres"

Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal invited all Board members from both adult Assns. with their husbands and/or wives to be their guests at their estate in Western N. C. July 28-31, 1957. This proved to be a wonderful way to study in a leisurely manner the projects of both groups, since their interests now ran along the same lines. Separate meetings by day, and joint meetings at night became the rule.

Mrs. Max Miller, on the committee to revise the Constitution, was instructed that rabbis and their wives should no longer be honorary members. Mrs. Edwards, Historian, was to prepare for publication the 40-year History of the Assn., reprinting the first 20 years she had previously written; it was also the Historian's duty to prepare records for filing with the Dept. of Archives in Raleigh. A Holiday bulletin was planned by Mrs. Klein, to carry news of the Home to all members.

Thousand-Dollar Club Begun

Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal had already secured ten members for the Thousand-Dollar Club, and funds in sight for the Home for the Aged now totaled $18,552.76. This was better than the Penny-a-Day boxes. Special gift cards and acknowledgements were being prepared, and local leaders were urged to publicize the need for donations. All money in the Home Fund above $300 was placed on interest. It was hoped that the 40th anniversary of the Assn. might see the dedication of the actual Home.

Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal had assembled a summer staff that became vitally interested in the causes sponsored and the various assemblies. Bountiful meals with true Jewish flavor came by plane or from the gardens and freezer; every meal tasted better because of the Hebrew responses, led by Host Dick or some of his guests. A craft shop was available for making jewelry and novelties during spare time; or trips were taken to Penland, Roan Mtn., or Asheville. Each group was photographed on the rustic steps leading to the dining-hall. The canteen was opened for late snacks. No group of folks ever got together with a higher purpose than these guests of the Blumenthals, who continued to hold their Assn. Board sessions at this delightful mountain retreat.

Celebrity Awards to Blumenthals

On Dec. 8, 1957 at Greensboro's Beth David Synagogue, the local B'nai B'rith Lodge selected Dick and Madolyn Blumenthal of Charlotte and "Wildacres" as the recipients of their annual Celebrity Night Awards. This couple, already crowned with honors in and out of the State, including a citation from the Natnl. Conference of Christians and Jews for Interfaith work, had spent a dedicated decade in sharing their bounty with those less fortunate of every creed and color, and in sparking movements for unity and reverence among N. C. Jews. Their "Wildacres" program of human relations was well known to thousands. Bringing testimonials were many people who had felt the impact of the Blumenthals' personalities. Proudest of all was Mr. Blumenthal's aged but active mother from Savannah, Ga.

The Women's Assn. Board meeting in Raleigh Feb. 23, 1958, considered the question of the Youth group holding its meetings apart from the adult convention, since smaller places could not handle both; just the officers were to come before the annual luncheon group to report on the use made of

the $300 given by the Men and a like sum by the Women. Gerald Waitman of Fayetteville reported that 65 had attended Camp Osceola the summer before. The young folks had added to their budget with a successful road show.

The sad news was recorded that Mrs. Adolph Oettinger (Edna Weil) of Goldsboro, last surviving child of Mrs. Sol Weil (founder of the Assn.) had passed away. Mrs. Oettinger was one of the donors of the Sophie Einstein Loan Fund trust, named for her grandmother. A Memorial Service was conducted for Mrs. Oettinger at the convention in New Bern in April.

First Meeting in New Bern 1958

The New Bern community buzzed with hospitality as Louis Howard's reconstructed Hotel Gov. Tryon made it possible to handle large gatherings for the first time. The Palace was a few months yet from being open. On Sun. Apr. 20, 1958 groups met in historic Gaston, deGraffenried, and Ambassador Rooms, while the meals were served in the Gov. Tryon Ballroom. Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal, Men's and Women's Presidents, were quartered in the Governor's Suite. The crowds justified the selection of an eastern city.

The revised Constitution on which Mrs. Margolis and Mrs. Miller had worked, was read and adopted; the committee was thanked for its fine job. The Historian called for any records in private hands to be turned in to her. The Youth group had taken up a collection for the Home for the Aged. To the $50 previously given the Circuit Bus, an equal amount was added for the purchase of a small Torah. Consideration was given to printing Year Books again, but the cost was found to be prohibitive, when the money was needed elsewhere.

Addressing the luncheon group was Rabbi Gottesman, who had his Bus parked conspicuously in front of Hotel Gov. Tryon. The Men's Assn. had assumed another milestone project -- a Judaica Library at Chapel Hill at U. N. C., which would cost $5,000 to equip and $1,000 a year to maintain; eventually it was hoped that this might lead to a Chair of Hebrew Studies at the University. Mr. Blumenthal presided at the luncheon, and his wife at the Banquet, with Rabbi Kling of Greensboro and Shirley Leder of Whiteville conducting meetings of Rabbis and Youth executive Board. The evening speaker was introduced by Mrs. Harold Orringer, member of the New Bern City Council; Dr. Eugene Borowitz, Associate Director of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations' Jewish Education Division, brought an inspirational message of encouragement to those who heard him,entitled "Parents and Children Search for God."

Second "Wildacres" Board Meeting 1958

At the Aug. 1958 Board meetings of the two adult Assns. at "Wildacres", the main topic was a plan submitted by Mr. Marvin Krieger of Statesville, which he called "Achodim - A Design for Living and Retirement." This complete retreat, or rather two such areas in mountains and seashore, would have provided more than a home for the elderly; it would include vacation facilities for all ages, with shopping and recreation centers, family cottages and motels, centered around an imposing chapel or synagogue.

The cost of Mr. Krieger's dream settlement, estimated at two million dollars, would be raised by asking every adult Jew in the State to pay $1,00 a week into a pyramiding building fund. He had diagrams, charts, and blueprints to indicate that he had given a great deal of time and thought to the

project; insurance longevity tables were also consulted. With Mr. Krieger was Dr. Sanford Cohen of the Dept. of Geriatrics at Duke Univ., who offered the assistance of his Dept. if needed. The Assns. voted to take the plan under consideration for further study.

Mrs. Theo Samet of Greensboro for the Women, and Mr. Bob Liverman of Roanoke Rapids for the Men, advisors of the Youth group at its Osceola Camp sessions, reported that the Assns.' money was well invested, even though friction sometimes developed in regard to programming. Mrs. I. M. Margolis was asked to assist Mrs. Blumenthal with the Home committee, with funds in bank or pledges amounting to $30,000. Mrs. Klein and Mrs. Freedman urged others to join them at Leadership Institutes at Chapel Hill, arranged each summer by the N. C. Council of Women's Organizations, to which the Assn. belonged. The Blumenthals invited their guests to their lovely home overlooking seven mountain ranges, for an informal gathering during the week.

Music Library Honors Honigman

A former N. C. A. J. W. President, Mrs. Maurice Honigman of Gastonia, who had become President of the N. C. Music Clubs and National Treasurer, was signally honored by having the Hinda Honigman Library Bldg. at Transylvania Music Camp, Brevard, N. C., named in her honor. Friends had made contributions, and many attended the dedication in July 1958. Later the Jewish organizations of Gastonia honored her at a testimonial dinner at the Gaston Country Club. Temple Oheb Sholom in Goldsboro celebrated its 75th Ann'y. being among the oldest in the State.

Pres. Blumenthal asked Women's Assn. members to observe the Jan. 12, 1959 Birthday by sending donations to the Home Fund. On Feb. 11 she and others met with Marvin Krieger and heads of Duke Depts. in Durham for a conference on the care of the ageing, and to consider the feasibility of Mr. Krieger's plan. In the meantime the Assns. proceeded steadily along toward their original goal.

Ten Presidents at Board Meeting

The Spring Board meeting was held in Greensboro at the Friendly Shopping center March 18, 1959, with Mrs. Blumenthal presiding, and nine past presidents in attendance -- Mesdames Rypins, Rosenthal, Zager, Jacobs, Edwards, Miller, Klein, Dr. Hirschberg, and Miss Weil. The Census was being brought up to date, after a lapse of several years, by Mrs. Irving Richeck of Charlotte; N. C. Jews now numbered nearly 10,000. The Assn. now used mailing permits to reduce postage rates on invitations and other circular matter.

The discussion of the Home project was foremost on the agenda. Greensboro and High Point were raising funds systematically. The example set by Charlotte was considered worth copying by other communities, and thousand-dollar rallies were planned, which the Blumenthals promised to attend. Mrs. Blumenthal had delivered a sermon at the Salisbury Temple on a recent Friday evening.

Celebrity Night in Greensboro Sun. Mar. 23, 1959 almost overtaxed the facilities of the spacious new Starmount Country Club, as Mr. and Mrs. E. J. (Mutt) Evans of Durham were awarded the top honors for the year.

The Durham mayor and wife (former Sarah Nachamson), ardent Hadassah officer in the Seaboard Region, were praised by Gov. Luther M. Hodges, who made an exception of leaving Raleigh during the Legislature. Gov. Hodges was introduced by former Greensboro Mayor Ben Cone.

Chapel Hill Conference 1959

Instead of going to High Point, the 1959 convention wound up in Chapel Hill for the first time. In spite of a drenching two-day downpour, those at the Carolina Inn felt repaid for their bravery in tackling the elements, by the lofty sentiments expressed by the convention speakers. Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal conducted business sessions of Men's and Women's Assns. as well as the luncheon and Banquet programs. The Rabbis met at the Hillel House with Pres. Friedman of Wilmington. Donna Hinchee of Greensboro was Youth leader. Mrs. E. R. Ackerman, formerly of Wallace, was general chairman; she and her husband had moved to Chapel Hill for more education after his retirement, as was becoming customary with quite a few folks.

At the Men's and Women's business meetings, formal resolutions were adopted, making the Home for the Jewish Aged a joint project of the two groups. Oringinally begun by the women, the scope of the movement grew to such an extent that the help of the men was needed and freely given. A representative of Israeli Bonds asked that money being held for the Home be put into Israeli Bonds; this was not done, as early use of the funds seemed imminent. Mr. Cy Jacobs of Greensboro proved to be an alert chairman of the Assn. Loan Fund, which was now helping eight students.

The Sunday luncheon speaker was Rabbi Ralph M. Weisberger, who now took the Assn. Bus on its regular circuit. For the smaller towns with newly-built houses of worship but no rabbi, he conducted occasional services, traveling to these points by car. The Sunday evening address by Dr. Norman Salit, Counselor for the Rabbinical Assembly of America, gave a glimpse into the life of a man with three careers -- rabbi, attorney, and journalist. In his travels to troubled spots, he had found Jews in many remote places; his pleas to save these remnants were sincere and appealing to those who heard him. Rocky Mount had a new Temple.

Mrs. Monroe Evans New President

In closing her three-year term as President, Mrs. Blumenthal did not embark on a period of inactivity, but became chairman of the Jewish Home for the Aged. Mrs. Monroe Evans of Fayetteville, but living in Raleigh temporarily while her husband, Mayor Evans' brother, did graduate work at State College, succeeded Mrs. Blumenthal as President.

On June 7, 1959 at the King Cotton Hotel in Greensboro, the N. C. "Bonds for Israel" organization, with Harry Golden in charge, arranged a "Dinner of Tribute" to N. C. Gov. Luther M. Hodges, whose friendliness had been shown unmistakably during his six years in office.

When the next Board meeting at "Wildacres" convened June 21-24, 1959, Mrs. Blumenthal was hostess and Mrs. Evans presided. On Mr. Blumenthal, however, fell the double duty of playing host and conducting the Men's sessions. Mrs. Herman Leder of Whiteville was new Census chairman and went to work right away to compile one of the best and most complete lists yet.

Arthur Goodman Missed

Mr. Arthur Goodman of Charlotte, disabled veteran of World War I, former Men's Assn. President, and active state leader, had only recently died after making plans to go to "Wildacres" where he had been a familiar figure for many years. Memorial gifts were assigned to the Home Fund. Consideration was given to printing a Year Book with ads. but this was not undertaken, since the state was too large to solicit.

The Home for the Jewish Aged could now point to a bank account of $52,830 in cash and pledges. The Ginsberg residence in Carthage was offered for such a Home, but the location was not central enough. Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal planned to go into every corner of the State in the Fall, to wage an intensive campaign for memberships in the Thousand-Dollar Club. Mr. Blumenthal, in his Charlotte business, the Radiator Specialty Co., had his own printing plant, and the Assn. had the advantage of this service in the frequent letters that went out regarding the need for Home funds.

There was some discussion of limiting the summer camp to the children of Assn. members, but this was not practicable. The camp question was always aired at the adult meetings, but it was usually left to the advisors from the three senior groups to formulate policies and assist with programs. Forty-two teen-agers attended the Aug. 1959 gathering at "Lakeside" near Hendersonville, with Mrs. Freedman of Durham and Bob Liverman of Roanoke Rapids as Assn. advisors, and Rabbi Friedman of Wilmington as program director. It became clear that paid professional direction was needed.

"Wildacres" Popular Spot

The annual B'nai B'rith Institutes, begun in 1948, continued, with instructional staff drawn from the finest talent in America. All who attended came away as better Jews and Jewesses. Every single week of the summer was scheduled, and many non-Jewish groups availed themselves of the privilege of meeting under such ideal conditions. For Jewish groups, the kitchen was changed to meet Kosher requirements. Only the last two days of each week were kept free in order that the staff might set the stage for the next event coming up.

Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal (through the Blumenthal Foundation) had set up their mountain estate as a perpetual trust in order that its far-reaching effects might be continued indefinitely.

At Mrs. Evans' first Fall Board meeting in Raleigh Oct. 14, 1959, the Home Fund was reported at $60,000 in cash and pledges. The Assn. continued its early commitments, and added another by mailed-in ballot several months later, the American Freedom Assn. with summer sessions at Blue Ridge Assembly Grounds.

Madolyn Blumenthal was featured as "Woman of the Month" in the Jan. 1960 "Jewish Times-Outlook". As former teacher and business executive, she had brought a sense of orderliness into the affairs of the Assn. she headed for three of its most memorable years. Husband Dick became "Church Layman of the Year" in Mecklenburg County, and his friend Herman Cohen said "When Dick goes to Heaven, he won't have to change his way of living."

Home Nears Reality 1960

When the invitation to hold the 1960 convention in Winston-Salem was accepted the previous Fall, no one had any idea that the finger of Fate had a hand in the plans. Here at Winston-Salem the opportunity suddenly opened up to purchase the R. E. Lasater estate, with buildings and grounds already developed to a high degree of beauty. When Mr. Blumenthal visited the site with local business men, he took an option on the property, subject to the approval of the convention to be held within the next few weeks.

On a very rainy Sunday Apr. 3, 1960, the fair-sized crowd that gathered at the Robert E. Lee Hotel for the four-fold conventions (no more Young Adults) quickly became excited when told that the answer to their prayers might be right there in Winston-Salem. After the luncheon, all business was suspended while a motorcade struggled through the rain to stay on the right road, that they might go through the house and see the magnificent grounds overlooking the Yadkin River. Under construction at the edge of the property was Route 40 East-West Expressway.

Highly symbolic was the chimney ornament, a six-pointed metal star! It took no high-powered salesmanship for the two Assns. to vote in favor of purchasing the property with the $86,000 on hand in cash and pledges. Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal generously added $75,000 to the Fund. He and Mrs. Evans continued as Presidents of the Men's and Women's Assns. The circuit Bus had 14 stations on its route and 300 children to be taught, setting up a hard schedule for the Roving Rabbi.

Winston-Salem Convention 1960

The luncheon speaker at Winston-Salem was Dr. Sanford Cohen of Duke University Medical School, whose work in Geriatrics made him a wise choice; while the general population increased at a normal rate, the number of those living beyond the age of 65 was growing larger every year.

In a beautiful ceremony arranged by Mrs. Evans and Dr. Hirschberg, Gertrude Weil's recent 80th Birthday was celebrated at the Banquet, when the hall was darkened and a lighted cake with blazing sparklers was wheeled in, while the crowd sang "Happy Birthday, dear Gertrude".

The Banquet speaker was Rabbi Joshua Goldberg, former chief Navy chaplain, who had just retired after service in both World Wars. He said "The extermination of the Jews in Europe places the responsibility for the future of Jewry in the hands of America." An early Polish immigrant, the chaplain had made 87 trips to Europe, and represented the U. S. when Israel declared its independence in 1948, taking the salute as Chief Rabbi. Declared he: "The way we treat older people is the measure of our culture and ideals." He awarded to Rabbi Jerome Tolochko, of Kinston the incoming President of the Rabbis' Assn., a plaque for outstanding service as chaplain to men in the armed services in eastern N. C. Pledge cards for the Home Fund were passed out in the audience and came back well signed.

Mr. Zelditch Points the Way

At "Wildacres" in July 1960 the Men's and Women's Assn. Boards were for the fourth time the guests of the Blumenthals. All attention centered on the recently-acquired property in Winston-Salem which had been purchased since the April convention. A Board of Governors had been set up, and the

fund-raising continued, as alterations and additions to the original structures would be necessary to fit them to the use of the elderly Jewish people of N. C.

Mr. Morris Zelditch, New York Social Planner who had talked to the 1955 Wilmington convention, was asked to visit the property and make recommendations to the two Boards. He advocated a professional survey to determine the exact needs of the N. C. Jews, and the advice of architects on the best use of the existing facilities and proposed additions. The cost per person was now set at $200 per month. The Assns. voted to conduct such a survey under Mr. Zelditch's direction as early as possible. Not only would money be needed to add to the present structure, but an endowment for maintenance was considered essential. Mr. Louis Newmark of the Atlanta Home, and Mr. Samuel Lubin, Regional Director of the Fed'n of Welfare Funds, also gave practical advice from a background of vast experience.

Plans Laid for 40th Anniversary

At a Fall Board meeting in Fayetteville, where Mrs. Monroe Evans was now living, plans were made for the 40th Convention to be held in Goldsboro in April 1961. The membership in the Assn. was stronger than ever, and all committees were functioning smoothly. Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Waitman of Fayetteville had been engaged as camp directors to assist the advisors at "Lakeside" during the last week in August when 63 teen-agers assembled there, and excellent order was maintained.

Mrs. A. M. Fleishman of Fayetteville was put in charge of local "Remembrance Gifts" for the Home for the Aged, and supplies of cards were sent out all over the State, with chairmen to boost their use.

At the 25th anniversary of the installation of Hillel at Chapel Hill in the Spring of 1961, Mrs. Al F. Klein was awarded the Hillel Gold Key for 25 years of continuous volunteer service. She and her husband had also received JWB-USO citations, as did many others in communities where defense bases continued to be active.

Goldsboro Host to 1961 Meeting

First on the plans for the 1961 Convention in Goldsboro, the place of the Assn's birth in 1921, was a ceremony honoring the Charter Members and Past Presidents. The original three dozen women had been reduced by age and death; only three presidents could not answer the Roll Call -- Mrs. Sol Weil, Mrs. J. L. Emanuel, and Mrs. A. A. Joseph. Mrs. Sam Freedman was chosen to honor these pioneers of 1921 and later.

Mr. Zelditch was invited back to N. C. to give the results of the survey that he had conducted the previous months, by mail and personal visits of social workers living in N. C. Rabbi Sarasohn of Goldsboro had arranged for an Exhibit on "The Jews in the Civil War" in connection with the nationwide Centennial observance of that struggle.

A gala gathering was scheduled for the afternoon at the handsome home of Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Brown. The ruby color scheme was very much in evidence in refreshments and decorations. The 40-year History, the work of Mrs. N. A. Edwards, also sported a ruby cover.

Luncheon and Banquet were held at Hotel Goldsboro. Instead of a Banquet address, Miss Gertrude Weil as Program chairman arranged a Panel Discussion on "What Do We Want of N. C. Jewry in the Next Forty Years?" Participating were Dr. Nell Hirschberg of Raleigh, Mr. Maurice Weinstein of Charlotte, and Rabbi Joseph Asher of Greensboro.

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The program of the N. C. Association of Jewish Women includes:

1. The establishment of a Home for the Jewish Aged in North Carolina. A portion of the annual dues is allocated for this vital project.

2. The sponsorship of the N. C. Association of Jewish Youth, for the purpose of stimulating and encouraging a program of cultural, religious, and social life among boys and girls 14-18 years of age.

3. The administration of Loan and Scholarship funds to help worthy and needy students of all races, creeds, and colors.

4. Membership in the State Legislative Council through which we work in the General Assembly for the passage of bills promoting humane and progressive legislation.

5. Membership in the N. C. Council of Women's Organizations which gives us representation among the organized Women's Clubs in N. C.

6. Contributions toward the purchase of books of Jewish interest to the libraries of the University of North Carolina and the Library in the bus by the Circuit Riding Rabbi. used

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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH WOMEN

REVISED APRIL 20, 1958

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the North Carolina Association of Jewish Women.

ARTICLE II - OBJECT

The object shall be to deepen the religious life, to stimulate interest in Jewish affairs, to increase Jewish community activities; to administer funds for religious, educational, and philanthropic purposes.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Any woman who is interested in the object of this organization shall be eligible for membership and may become a member by paying the requisite dues.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

The officers shall be: President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President, Fourth Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian. The four Vice-Presidents shall be chosen from the various sections of the state. Election shall be held in accordance with the by-laws for a term of two years. None of the officers shall be elected for more than one term for any office, except the Historian.

ARTICLE V - DIRECTORS

Directors shall be appointed by the President, with the advice of the Vice-President of each section, from the nine districts into which the state has been divided.

ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall consist of:

A. The duly elected officers
B. District Directors from nine Districts
C. Chairmen of Standing Committees
D. Past Presidents of the Organization

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

The Association shall meet annually at the call of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present, the proposed amendment having been presented in writing at a previous session.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. THE PRESIDENT. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors. She shall have the power to appoint all standing and all special committees. She shall be ex-officio member of all committees with the exception of the Nominating Committee.

Section 2. VICE-PRESIDENTS. The Vice Presidents, in order of their priority, shall perform the duties of the President in her absence or inability to serve. Each Vice-President in consultation with the District Director shall be responsible for the appointment of local chairmen for the towns and cities within the districts assigned to her and shall be responsible for action and membership in the districts under her jurisdiction.

Section 3. RECORDING SECRETARY. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep a record of all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors and submit a copy of these records to the President as soon as feasible after said meetings. She shall also keep a list of the members of the Associatior

Section 4. CORRESPONDING SECRETARY. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to conduct the correspondence of the Association. She shall issue all calls to regular or special meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. TREASURER. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse the moneys of the Association, upon approval of statements by the President. On receipt of yearly dues, she shall issue to members certificates of membership. She shall render a written annual report to the Association.

Section 6. HISTORIAN. The Historian shall be the custodian of all records of the Association and shall be responsible for their being placed in a safe repository as shall be approved by the Board of Directors. She shall keep a running historical record of the Association. In consultation with the President, she shall form a committee to work under her jurisdiction to carry out properly the duties of her office.

ARTICLE II - DUES

Section 1. Annual dues shall be two dollars for each individual member.

ARTICLE III - FISCAL YEAR

Section 1. The fiscal year for the North Carolina Association of Jewish Women shall be from April 1 to March 31 of each calender year.

ARTICLE IV - COMMITTEES

Section 1. Committees shall be known as Standing Committees and Special Committees.

(a) The Standing Committees shall include: a Budget or Finance Committee; a Bulletin Committee; a Census Committee; a Home for the Aged Committee; a Legislative Committee; a Loan Fund Committee; a Membership Committee; a Nominating Committee; a North Carolina Council of Women's Organization Committee; a Youth Activities Committee; and as many other Standing Committees as the Board of Directors may establish to carry out the work of the Association. Each Standing Committee shall consist of a chairman and at least two additional members, appointed by the President.

(b) Special Committees shall be appointed by the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, to handle any special functions of the Association.

ARTICLE V - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. NOMINATING COMMITTEE. The Nominating Committee shall be composed of a Chairman and four additional members appointed by the President. A report of the Nominating Committee shall be made at each annual meeting on the officers to be elected at that meeting in accordance with these by-laws. Additional nominations shall be accepted from the floor. No nomination may be submitted without the consent of the nominee.

Section 2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS. Officers shall be elected for staggered terms, as follows:

(a) At the Annual Meeting on the even calendar years there shall be held the election of President, First Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and Historian.

(b) At the Annual Meeting on the odd calendar years there shall be held the election of Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President, Fourth Vice-President, and Recording Secretary.

(c) A majority vote of the members present shall constitute an election.

Section 3. A vacancy in an elective office shall be filled until the next annual election by the President.

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS

Section 1. ANNUAL MEETING. The annual meeting of the Association shall take place as near following the end of the fiscal year of March 31 as shall be expedient, and shall be held in such place as shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Written notice of this meeting shall be sent to all members not less than two weeks prior to the date of the meeting. At this time there shall be the presentation of written annual reports of officers and committee chairmen to the membership, and the election of such officers as shall be in accordance with these by-laws.

Section 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings of the Association may be called by the President and the Board of Directors or upon written request of twenty members.

Section 3. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS. The President shall designate the time and place of a minimum of one meeting of the Board of Directors between Annual Meetings in order to carry out the work of the Association.

Section 4. DISTRICT MEETINGS. It shall be the duty of the District Director, with the approval of the President and the Vice-President under whose jurisdiction she serves, to arrange a meeting in her district once each year.

ARTICLE VII - AFFILIATION WITH OTHER GROUPS

Section 1. In order to retain the objectives of the Association and to include membership of any woman within the state, affiliation with other organizations shall be limited to those whose objects are strictly for the benefit of persons within the State of North Carolina and whose activities are for the benefit of all persons within the State, regardless of sex, race, or creed. Associations of a National or International affiliation shall be excluded from the sponsorship of this organization.

Section 2. Affiliations with organizations or other groups shall be reviewed and approved annually by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. The rules contained in Roberts' RULES OF ORDER REVISED shall govern this Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these by-laws.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS

Section 1. Amendments and revisions in writing to any part of these by-laws shall be proposed for adoption upon recommendation of the Board of Directors or a special committee appointed for that purpose, provided that said amendments have been approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Amendments in writing to these by-laws may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of those members present at any Annual Meeting, the proposed amendment having been presented at a previous session.